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Poetry.

SLANDER.

'Twas but a breath—
And yet a woman's fair name wilted,
And friends once warm grew cold and stilted;
And life was worse than death.

One venomed word,
That struck its coward poisoned blow,
In craven whispers hushed and low—
And yet the wide world heard.

'Twas but one whisper—one
That muttered low for very shame,
That thing the slanderer dare not name,
And yet its work was done.

A hint so light,
And yet so mighty in its power,
A human soul in one short hour
Lies crushed beneath its blight.

Selected Story.

A LITTLE BROTHER.

A Story in three Parts.

Part 1. A Boy too Much.
Part 2. A Boy too Little.
Part 3. Just Enough of a Boy.

PART III.
Concluded.

Only a narrow ravine, wide enough to admit the passage of a steep cart-road down to the river-beach, separates the terraced lawns of the two houses. It is customary, of course, for gentlemen at the Pavilion to stroll as near the boundary fence of that resort as they please. Dr. Morris availed himself of this fact, and, puttling up his collar for an incognito, lit another cigar, to appear as nonchalant as possible, and began pacing up and down the grassy border of the lawn that looked toward the porch of the next house. There was nothing in this act to awake suspicion in the two who sat there side by side, half in moonlight, half in shadow; they paid no attention to him whatever, as much because the sight of unknown gentlemen next door was usual as because 'they were preoccupied. Privacy in publicity is one of the many attainments easily acquired by the flirtatious, to say nothing of more earnest affairs, of watering place life.

Before the doctor's cigar was smoked out, he had come to the following conclusions: That the beautiful young girl on the porch was in the toils of the neighboring rascal, by force of one of those strange delusions which affect the simple and the high-minded alike. She believed she loved because she heard that she was loved. Her nature, in its first ardor of womanhood, feeling out into the new world for that necessary something to expend its powers of growth upon, to cling around, to climb up to, had unfortunately touched a villian. She was not to blame: in society, a man's true self is such a deep down substratum, so overlain by successive layers of constitutional caution, educational reserve, handsome physique, elegent manners, tailor-skill, and innumerable deceptive conventional circumstances, that it is hard for any one, however world sharpened, to penetrate the crust and get at the basis of the human geological system. Much less for a young girl, utterly innocent, purehearted, unred in the book of man's hidden badnesses, who, moreover, had a father and mother as frank and unsuspicious of evil as two people could be and live in a handsome free stone house in an eligible city street, a lot necessarily attained, as times ago, by some slight measure of wordly keeness. She had not really loved yet,—something within him made the doctor particularly willing to believe *that*; she was only measuring the depth of her heart, and, striking on a big slimy sea-snake that lay basking a little way down, thought her lead had touched the bottom. The doctor was assured of this, and, in corrobration, he perceived that the gentleman was the chief actor in the *tete-a-tete* across the way. He gestured, he talked, he bent down over his beautiful victim, and altogether seemed putting forth his utmost power, like a travelling magnetizer exerting his will to get and keep his subject "*en rapport.*" Kate listened to him, looked at him motionlessly as a snake-charmed bird; she was under a spell, when the doctor was also willing to believe could not be broken except by some resolute third person with a will as strong as the facinator and moral force a trifle greater.

Having "looked around" to his satisfaction, the doctor retired to his room to refresh himself by sleep for the exigency of the morrow. Immediately after breakfast the next morning he despatched, by one of the waiters, the following little note to Mrs. Jones: —

"MY DEAR MADAM,—I am staying at the Pavilion for a few days, and would have taken a still earlier opportunity than this to pay my respects to you, but for the fact that I am arranging a little surprise for one of my friends, and accordingly wish, for a few hours longer, to preserve my incognito. May I entrust the secret of my being here with you until I am able to call in person, and at the same time ask that my little friend Augustus may be permitted to spend the day with me, and, if it is pleasant, take a sail up the river with me this afternoon?

"Very truly your most obedient servant,
"M'GREGOR MORRIS."

In twenty minutes, the boy brought back this answer: —

"MY VERY DEAR SIR—Your incognito is perfectly safe with me. It will give me the greatest pleasure to accept your very kind invitation for Augustus, and nothing, certainly, could be more delightful to him. I am afraid the child has very little to amuse him here; he is compelled to seek most of his pleasures alone, as it is, perhaps, hardly to be expected that a boy of his age and somewhat too regulan tendencies could prove very congenial company to a young lady like my daughter. His father is compelled to be a good deal in New York during the day, and I am not as vigorous a playmate as he needs. This afternoon, Kate, with a friend of hers staying here, is expecting to take a sail on the river, and I have been puzzling myself all the morning for some plan to interest my little boy, in case, as is probable, it would be too much trouble to make him one of the party. Your invitation is, therefore, both extremely kind and *apropos*; and as soon as Augustus can be discovered, recalled from his crab fishery, and put into presentable condition, he shall be sent over to your room. We shall make haste to give you a cordial welcome as soon as you find it convenient to make your promised visit.

"Sincerely and gratefully your friend,
"CATHARINE JONES."

This note was followed, in about an hour, by Master Augustus. The doctor and he then decended together to the little wharf where all the pleasure-boats of the Shrewsbury fleet still lay moored, it being morning bathing hour, and all the lovers of "a wet sheet and a flowing sea" disporting themselves in the surf on the other side of the bar. The doctor, therefore, had his pick of the flotilla.

Leading Augustus by the hand, he went up and down the warf, surveying with critical eye the different crafts in respect to their points for fast-sailing, and at length stood still above a cat-rigged boat, clinker-built, clean-sparred, compactly and sharply modelled, which bore on her stern the name *Shanghai*. For the benefit of those who do not go down unto the sea in cock-boats and behold the mighty wonders that are done not only on the deep, but on shoals, with vessels drawing one foot water, I say, episodically, that the cat-rig boat is one which carries a mainsail only, and is a favorite on the Shrewsbury river, where the channel, in places, is so extremely narrow that the short tacks one is obliged to make would be much additionally shortened by the projection of a bowsprit, with the alternative of running that delicate piece of timber into the bank on either side Moreover, the cat-boat can be managed by one man, in trolling for blue-fish or Spanish mackeral, with a wind on the bow; the can man his main-sheet with one hand, feel his squid-line with the other, and tend his tiller between his knees. If he carried a jib a second hand would be necessary to mind the fore-sheet; or, in going about quickly, it might foul, put him in the wind's eye, and set him drifting stern-first, with an eight pound blue-fish to help himself off the squid with natural alacrity.

"Do you know anything about the *Shanghai*?" asked the doctor, of his companion.

"I guess I do!" answered the youth, enthusiastically.

She's the fastest boat on *this* little river. I'm going to buy her when I'm a man, and peddle clams, if mother'll let me,—that is, if I dont be a lawyer or saw wood."

"Then your'e given up the idea, since I saw you first, of going into the bread business."

"Shut up! What do you want to plague a fellow for? I was a little boy when I said *that*, and I've travelled a good deal since. There's such an *awful nice* man sails that boat! He showed me how to find soft crabs, and he's given me ever so many sails in the *Shanghai*. His name's Van Brunt, and I like him better than all the captains put together."

"Well, Augustus, I guess, to please you, we'll take Van Brunt's boat for this afternoon."

So they hunted up the master of the *Shanghai*,—were modestly corroborated by him in their opinion of the craft's fast points,—and engaged her from dinner, time until they got tired or through, in the opinion of the doctor and Augustus, would occur about simultaneously.

There are too many sources of amusement at Shrewsbury Highlands, from which the two could have extracted pastime until three o'clock, P. M., for me to chronicle here. At that hour, as the docter sat smoking his after-dinner cigar on the Pavilion terrace, and Master Augustus stood at his knee learning how they cut people's legs off, for *his* post-prandial sedative, and very much disappointed to hear that the doctor could not also add any description from eye-witness of the amputation of heads, Morris, who had been all the time watching the warf, "out of the tail o' his eye," saw Mr. Lilykid assist Miss Jones into the vessel known as *My Own Mary Ann*, and take the tiller in his hand. The captain of the craft proffered his assistance,—seemed even disposed to come on board and sail the *Mary Ann* for them,—but the man devoted to society waved him off with a courtly gesture of the hand, and signified his ability to manage for himself.

As soon as the *Mary Ann* glided from the wharf, the doctor told Augustus to follow him as quick as possible, and started with all speed for the *Shanghai*. Van Brunt had her ready for him, and, without losing a moment's time, the two tumbled aboard, and the lith little cat ran out into the stream. Her captain, from the warf, watched her for a moment to be sure of the seamanship of the doctor, and then retired, perfectly satisfied, to the little oyster and soft-crab stand at the foot of the Pavilion steps, where his cronies most did congregate. The wind was blowing fresh down the river,—that is, toward its mouth at Sandy Hook, though Shrewsbury people persist in calling that direction *up*, referring all motion to New York as the head of things,—but the tide was at the first quarter of a particularly strong flood, and it was very easy for a skilful hand to beat up as far as Minturn's Point,—a bald promontory of the Highlands where the river divides, one branch bending at right angles westward to Red Bank, and the other keeping stright on to the southward to Branch Port, the point of debarkation for Long Branch. Once around the point, and a boat could lay her course, taking the southerly wind abeam and the favering tide all the way to the Bank.

The boat that Mr. Lilykid had was a good sailer in good hands, but still not to compare with the *Shanghai*, which was of lighter model, from her clinker build "lifted quicker," spread more mainsail, and trimmed closer to the wind by several points. At the present time the *Mary Ann* was *not* in remarkably good hands, made her tacks irresolutely (on the second one from the wharf nearly missing stays as she went about), and did not take the advantage of the flaws, but luffed when she ought to keep on. Morris was a good sailor for an amateur, and possessed what is an advantage to all but practised professionals, a small pennant to steer by, while the object of his chase had none, and was compelled to watch the leach of his sail. So that the *Shanghai* overhauled him rapidly.

Still the old saw, that "a starn chase is a long chase," might have come true but for one little fact which Mr. Lilykid did not know, and whose knowledge the doctor owed solely to the keen-eyed young observer of men and things, Augustus. About ten rods out from Minturn's Point a weedy shallow commences and runs in a south-easterly direction almost entirely across to the bar, compelling those who prefer the channel to getting aground to hug the point as closely as possible. The doctor, being out in possession this bit of information, made his last long tack completely across from the bar to the point, and then luffed up a little to pass through the narrow channel. Mr. Lilykid, being ignorant of it, kept more away while he was still to windward of the *Shanghai*, expecting to make a clear run up the north bend of the river which now opened straight before him. So that, just as Morris passed the point, Lilykid's ears were greeted by that ignoble and repulsive sound, the grinding of the sand upon his keel, and the next moment, with a prolonged groan and a dead thug, the Mary Ann became an unexpected guest in the eel-grass and mud bowers of the treacherous Shrewsbury amphitrite. Augustus gave a prolonged crow, and stood up on the centre-board to the imminent danger of his little shins' more intimate acquaintance with a jibing boom. The doctor pulled him down directly, and told him to keep out of sight for the present, at the same time putting the Shanghai right into the wind's eye to drift slowly with the tide, till he "looked around" a little further.

For the first time he now saw Kate plainly. She thought something dreadful had happened—feared that the Mary Ann had been stove in,—and was leaning over the gunwale, very beautiful but pale as death. Mr. Lilykid for his part, did all that was possible for a man to do; standing on his quarter-deck and calling with his might and main to the unknown crew of the *Shanghai* to "come *back!*"—Ah! he little knew how ready they were to answer that hail. The next minute the *Shanghai* had backed out of her narrow channel by the utmost exertions of the doctor with a long sweep, and stood over their shoal. Only the bows of the *Mary Ann* were grounded; her stern lay in such deep water that the *Shanghai* run her bow close up without danger of sharing the catastrophe. With a loose coil of the main-halliard, Dr. Morris quickly made fast, and then in the calmest possible tone said:

"Miss Jones, permit me to assist you on board our craft."

She looked at him searchingly, recognized him, and the marble whiteness of her face changed to an intense crimson flush; but she leaped on board the Shanghai, and passed to the stern, where she sat down, just noticing Augustus, and hid her face in her handkerchief. With a cheerful, graceful step, acquired probably from practice in the Chasseurs during his life-long devotion to society, Mr. Lilykid next advanced, and was about to step upon the bow of the Shanghai when the hand of the doctor gently kept him back.

"Excuse me, sir, but there is no room for you on board this boat."

"Weally, Mistah, I don't know your name, but this is most extwa-awdinawy conduct! Not woom? Why, I've known that cwaft of youahs to cawwy twenty-five!"

"Really, Mister, I *do* know your *names*—this may be true—but were you ever cognizant of its carrying Mr. Lilykid and Lord Rocambleburry, and Pennyroyal Pike, and English Jimmy the Gentleman, and Andrew Redding? I put it to your good sense whether so many of you wouldn't sink us? I object, my dear sir, to the *Shanghai's* having anything to do with your transportation; this is *not* a convict ship, and I am not a police-officer. Though I have had the pleasure of knowing some who were intimately acquainted with you, and recollect being present on one occasion at —— street station, where you were detained from a little party, but found bail it seems. However, in going, let me advise you to keep clear of the Highlands, as soon as the tide rises, for there *may* be gentlemen here to see you by this evening's boat. I just drop the hint. Good-day."

As the doctor concluded this long speech—somewhat *too* long to be put among the terse and remarkable sayings which have become immortal, but not too long for his object, which was delicately to enlighten Miss Jones as to the character of the man her innocence had trusted—he shoved off the Shanghai and sprang to the helm just in time, for, as the little craft swung around on to the wind again, a puff came which nearly brought the water up to her lee combings. Just then the mute astonishment and range of the devotee of society gave way to a fierce and undisguised expression of the same emotions; he uttered language which it is to be hoped he had never practiced in the depth of his elegant solitude, and wrenching out an awning-pin which stood at the bow of the Mary Ann, sprang for the deck of his foe. Sprang, but fell about three feet short, and as Kate cried out in terror not to let him drown, took that trouble for himself, wading back to the standard vessel, a very wet but by no means a cool gentleman. To conclude forever this fragment of the Lillykiddian biography, let me say that as the tide rose the Mary Ann floated again, and, putting her before the wind, her unfortunate captain sped for the coast that is nigh unto Keyport, and there running her ashore, departed for quarters unknown to these gentlemen of the deiached service who came up to visit him on the evening boat. And the rest of the Lilykid, are they not recorded in the unwritten imprecations of Jem Conkrite the craft's owner, who, with much expense of "hallowed sweat" and unhallowed breath, reclaimed the Mary Ann from the waters of Raritan Bay, with a broken gaff and a splintered centre-board, and after repairing the same got out a writ with innumerable aliasses for his absconded debtor, which remaineth unserved unto this day?

In ten minutes from the shoving off of the Shanghai she was moored again at the Pavilion wharf. During that short trip the doctor, yea, even Augustus, did all that lay in their power to arouse Kate from the terrible dream in which she seemed immured almost from all outer help. Morris, by the most assiduous, unobtrusive attention,—by speaking, without apparent intention, of other things than those just present,—attempted to make her feel that he could not possibly be in possession of her secret. And Augustus—if not yet quite fit to be an angel, and with the angels stand—proved himself worthy of belonging to quite as good a class of spirits, for our earthly purposes at least; namely, those who run about instead of standing among our human sinners and sufferers, and make them as comfortable as possible with all sorts of faithful kindness.

As the doctor lifted Kate ashore, she spoke almost for the first time,—

"Is that man really all you told him he was?"

The doctor bowed, and put into her hand a little package of papers containing the data of the police office.

"Then God bless you!" said she, pressing his hand with a look of unutterable gratitude. "You saved Augustus; and now,—you will never know on earth what good you have done *me!*"

IV. BEING A FEW FRAGMENTS FROM THE LIFE OF THE BOY AND HIS FRIENDS.

But the doctor *did* know, and on earth, too (though his feet did not seem to be exactly touching it at the time), the good he had done, and was to do, for the little brother's sister.

During the same summer, toward its close, a little bird, swinging on the twig of one of those trees which, at the upper point of Goat Island, look toward the Niagara Rapids, caught this little bit of a talk and brought it to me.

"And can *you* really,—with all the jealous, unsharing, rival-hating heart of a man, still *love me?* *Me*, whose heart once went so bitterly astray, and was nearly wrecked forever?"

"Not your *heart*, Kate; your *head* only! You were merely feeling your depth,—or, better still, merely trying your strength to mount. If you reached your full height, is not that what many do, and then sit sadly on the lower stairs, unsatisfied, pining, miserable; looking with despair through a whole life on the bright blessed height, far over them, to which they might have scaled; knowing that not their heart at all, but their young, untaught head, has brought this spellbound wretchedness upon them? And shall I love you less for remembering the ladder on which you climbed up to a true man's soul—believing in my heart of hearts that you have now reached your height?"

"Yes, I *have* reached it."

"God bless my darling!"

There was a wedding in Twenty-third street. Little Brother sat up to it without doing the most trifling thing that was disagreeable. Indeed, the little Misses Blummerie said he was charming! And he did both look and act as handsomely as any youth who longed to put away the *enfant terrible* part of boy character possibly could. His chief amusement, when not bringing up little girls by the hour together to kiss the bride, consisted in poking with his small finger the side of the groom's white satin waistcoat, and whispering, with most amiable inaudibleness,—

"*Didn't* we dish him, old fellow?—*say?*"

About one o'clock, A. M., when the little girls had gone and the big ones were going, Master Augustus yielded to Nature's kind restorer, and was surrendered to her in a state of most unreserved capitulation.

Just before the lights were turned off for the night, the new bride and bridegroom stole into the little bedchamber where the little brother was sleeping, as he was wont to brag, "all alone by himself."

They both bent down and kissed the rosy cheek which, under its curly corn-silk, was lying on the little open palm; looked tenderly at him, and then at each other.

"Once you thought he was a little imp."

"And now I think he is a little angel."

And what they both thought was, that it was not such a bad thing to have a little brother after all.

Miscellany.

SUDDEN DEATH OF AN EX-SENATOR.

Picked Up in the Streets Unconscious—Locked Up as a Drunkard—Died in Bellevue Hospital—Municipal Police Stupidity.

(From the New York Sun.)

At 9 o'clock on Wednesday evening, January 4th, the Hon. Buckingham Smith, ex-United States Senator from Florida, was found nearly unconscious in University Place, near Thirteenth st., by Policeman Banta, of the Fifteenth Ward. He was taken to the Mercer street Police Station, and the officer made a charge of intoxication, and the gentleman was dragged to a cell and locked up. On his person were found letters indicating that he was the Hon. Buckingham Smith, residing at 127 East Thirteenth street. Although Mr. Smith was insensible, the following entry was made by Sergeant Carpenter on the Police record:

9:20 p. m.—Prisoner, Buchingham Smith, aged 55, born in United States; occupation, teacher; married; can read and write; residence, 127 East Thirteenth street; charge, intoxication; complainant, Officer Banta; had $21.17, knife and letters.

Thus at an early hour, with letters in his pocket giving the name and address, and money sufficient to defray any expenses necessary for his comfort, he was flung into one of the death-dealing dungeons of Mercer street, and suffered to remain all night without any attention. Long after daybreak on the following morning the gentleman was found still insensible, and Police Surgeon Freligh was summoned. He pronounced it a case of poisoning by chloroform, and Senator Smith was sent to Bellevue Hospital. An ambulance was summoned by telegraph, and Dr. Farrington of Bellevue Hospital, taking it for granted that Dr. Freligh's diagnosis was correct, took the patient to the Hospital and reported it as "a probable case of poisoning by chloroform."

Sergt. Carpenter then wrote in his blotter:

"Jan. 5, 8 A. M.—Surgeon Freligh called to examine prisoner Buckingham Smith, and pronounced him laboring under chloroform. Sent to Bellevue Hospital.

On arriving at Bellvue hospital, the patient was examined by Dr. Powell, house physician, and found to be dying of consumption and diabetes, and at midnight the same night he expired.

At the Coroner's inquest Dr. Powell testified to the facts, and a verdict was rendered accordingly. On the following day the body was found by some friends in a plain pine coffin, and about to be sent to the Morgue to await identification. Thus, with his name and residence entered on the police records and hospital books, the Senator was treated as an unknown man.

These facts were ascertained by personal friends of the Senator, and by prominent members of the Historical and Ethnological Societies, to which Mr. Smith belonged, and have been verified by a reporter of the Sun.

The deceased gentleman had been an attache of the American Legation at the Court of Madrid, and had translated many works from the Spanish among which are the "Life of De Soto," and "The Life and Travels of Cabiza de Baca." He was of strictly temperate habits, high toned, refined and sensitive; and, although a native of Florida, had always been loyal to the Federal Government.

Prof. Sayre thinks that the gentleman's death was accelerated by the unwarranted treatment which he received while in the hands of the police.

A memoir of the late Charles H. Sweetser is to be published by the Minnesota Historical Society.

A FIEND IN HUMAN SHAPE.

The Remarkable Career of Edward H. Ruloff, the Murderer—His Singular Detection.

No more curious case will be found in the annals of criminal jurisprudence, than that of Edward H. Ruloff, who will end a quarter of a century spent in the most deliberate and horrible crimes, on the scaffold at Syracuse, N. Y., on March 3d, next. A man of extraordinary natural abilities, well educated, and occupying a good position in society, his first public crime was committed at Ithica, N. Y., twenty-five years ago. His lovely wife of a year, and child, suddenly disappeared, and he was tried on the charge of murder. The circumstances were all against him. No lawyer could be found to defend him. But he, being a man of resources, defended himself, and was acquited. He was arraigned for abducting his wife and child, and being convicted, was sentenced to the penitentiary for a term of ten years.

According to his own confession, just published, although made years ago, it appears that he first rendered his wife insensible by chloroform. He then took up a plank in the floor, and, opening a vein, bled her to death, the blood flowing through the opening. The child he disposed of in a similar manner. He then put the dead bodies in a box prepared for the purpose. He got a neighbor to help him load the box upon a wagon, alleging that it was filled with books. He drove to the lake, put the box in a skiff, then filled it with stones, and rowed out to the middle of the lake, where he pushed the box with the corpses of his wife and child overboard. No one saw the dreadful deed, and until very recently none but the confidant of his early counsel knew the facts.

He lost no time from study in his imprisonment, but became thoroughly versed in criminal law and the theory of practice, improved his knowledge of the sciences to the extent of being really learned, and mastered seven foreign languages so as to speak and write them with ease and correctness. After this he appeared in New York as Senior, although having many aliases, among them Felton, Williams and Davenport. At this time he pettifogged in defense of criminals in the police courts, planned daring burglaries, some of which he assisted to carry out. And he sometimes suddenly appeared in courts far from the city, as counsel for persons accused of various crimes to which he was privy, but in which he took no active part. On these occasions he used one of his many aliases.

In August, 1870, Halbert Brothers' store, Binghampton, N. Y., was entered by three burglars. The two clerks sleeping in the store were awakened, and bravely enough set upon the burglars.—After a desperate struggle, in which one of the villians was badly beaten, another of them shot one of the clerks dead, and the invaders then ran away. Two of them were drowned in attempting to cross the river. The third seemed to have escaped. Behind, in the store, one of the burglars left a pair of shoes, one of which was fitted to a deformed foot. Meanwhile the coroner was at work and an old man calling himself Williams, was found prowling about and arrested. His examination was stupidly managed, and he was discharged. Sharp eyes were on him, however, and one who believed he recognized Ruloff in the old man, took the shoes found in the store and pursued. Coming up with the fugitive, the pursuer accosted him as "Ruloff," arrested him, took him back to Binghampton, fitted the queer shoe to his deformed left foot, which was deformed from the freezing of the toes years before, while hiding from the consequences of crimes committed. This was the first link in the chain of circumstantial evidence, which finally constrained the jury to pronounce him guilty. Among other curious things in this evidence the detectives found a slip, cut from a newspaper, in the drawer of the accused at his lodgings in New York. When arrested he had a valise. In that valise was a newspaper, out of which a slip had been cut. The slip found in New York was produced and found to fit the place exactly. Other incidents touching the evidence are scarcely less marvelous. As it now appears these were not his only victims. They numbered seven in all. Merrick was the third known one.

Jarvis and Dexter, educated in crime by him, lay their deaths and disgrace at his door. His mother-in-law was his sixth victim. She, bowed down with grief over the loss of her daughter, had dragged along till confronted at Binghamton in August last with the man whom she believed, but did not know to be guilty of that daughter's death. The shock was too great, she died in less than three days.

But the most remarkable fact is that this life of unexcelled wickedness was deliberately chosen, and systematically carried out, as if for the purpose of all who came in contact with him. When he was in prison twenty-five years ago, he ingratiated himself into the favor of the jailer's son, a promising lad, and instilled the passion to commit the vilest crimes. Yet through all he has maintained his intellectual supremacy. In all the exact sciences he was practically expert. He was learned in jurisprudence, in the languages, in belles-letters, and had prepared a volume upon philology, out of which he expected to realize money and reputation.

A Female Miser.

The Westchester (Pa.) *Record* says: Hannah Woodward, of West Bradford, whose death, at the advanced age of eighty-two years, was published some time since, was quite eccentric in her ways. She had a house and a few acres of land, and for years lived entirely alone. She was economical in her habits almost to parsimony, depriving herself almost of the necessaries of life. One cord of wood would last her an incredibly long time, and in the coldest weather the chance visitor would find her sitting by the stove containing hardly enough fire to make a show, while the apartment would be as cold as out doors. Her wardrobe was of the most scanty description. Since her death various sums of money have been found hidden away in various parts of the house, amounting altogether to a out $300. One roll of money was found hidden away in a stove pipe in the garret. In an old stocking was found $80 in gold and silver coin. She is unmarried. She left about $2,000 in real estate and about $3,000 in money.

Mrs. Mary Wiley died recently at Sharon, Vt., at the age of 70 years. To her belonged the rare honor of having seven sons in the Union army, two of whom died while in the service of their country.

DOCTORS AND DENTISTS.

How They Make Money in New York.

[Correspondence of the Springfield Republican.]

A physician in good practice will receive patients in his office four hours daily, and make calls for the same length of time. From ten to twelve callers and half as many house patient's would be a fair average, for which the fees would be $2 and $5 each. At these figures it would not be hard to make up an income of $20,000, or more. It is stated of Dr. W. Parker, I believe, that, having been called out of town to attend a patient, he returned a bill of $300, and when it was disputed he showed by his books that his daily receipts were much over that sum, and this will give an idea of the profits of the most successful doctors. Surgeons' single charges are larger than those of physicians, though the incomes of the latter are probably the highest. For ordinary attendance their rates are about the same, or say $5 a visit. From $25 upwards is the charge of operations. For setting an arm or leg, $250 would be asked; larger undertakings being taken in proportion. For a case requiring a delicate operation and six weeks' constant attentance, sometimes two or three times a day, $1,000 was lately asked by a leading surgeon. In another instance, where a wealthy gentleman was badly lamed by a railroad car, he was attended by Dr. James R. Wood, who made about a dozen visits, without any important operation, and sent in a bill for $2,500—which was paid. This is exceeded by Dr. Carnochan, who charged $2,000 for an operation alone, while another surgeon is said to have recovered $4,500 from one patient.

One of the heaviest expenses of doctors as of lawyers, is for professional books. These are very costly, ranging as high as $50, and even $250 a piece, while every physician has to buy some of them, so that a good professional library is a luxury that few can afford. The latter are not usually to be found among the most popular doctors who, as has been said, have not time for much study, but among the few scholary men who pursue original research. There are few men, like Dr. Purple, who have taste for collecting books, but these are exceptions. The latter has a very fine collection of rare American medical publications. Dr. Stephen Smith, Dr. Carroll, Dr. Hammond, are among others who have good medical libraries ranging from 2,500 to 3,000 volumes each, and comprising the latest French, German, and American scientific and medical publications.

The prices charged by dentists are quite as high as those of physicians. A man of ordinary reputation in the profession will ask from $5 to $30 for pulling a single tooth, while Mr. Atkinson, one of the most fashionable dentists, is reported to charge $10 for simply examining a person's teeth and $25 an hour for operating on them, and has brought in a bill of $200 for filling a single tooth. Many people refuse to pay these fancy prices, but it is a common thing to have to pay anywhere from $10 to $100 for dentists' bills. Most practitioners of any reputation have engagements very far ahead. Ten days is a short notice to wait for your turn; while a friend of mine, who went to Europe in the middle of last October, on applying to her dentists for treatment, was told that he could not give her an hour's need until February, or nearly four months in advance. Dentists are kept busy all the year round, and seldom have any leisure. Their practice is confining and not healthy, but is very profitable. Their incomes range from $5,000 to $50,000 a year, while they have no expenses for carriage hire, books or travel, and not a very heavy outlay for materials and keeping up their offices.

SUICIDE IN DETROIT.

A Sad Affair—Deliberate Self-Murder of one of Our Best Business Men.

From the Detroit Tribune, Jan. 23.

Last night at a late hour, Henry Wolff, of the firm of Wolff Brothers, trunk manufacturers at 211 Jefferson avenue, committed suicide at his residence, No. 202 Lafayette street. The affair occurred late at night, and no facts concerning it could be learned before this morning.

It appears that Mr. Wolff had for some time been addicted to drinking considerably but not to excess. He seems, also, to have been mentally deranged at times and his affliction is attributed entirely to liquor, as his business, family and social relations generally have always been of a prosperous and pleasant character. Several times he threatened to kill himself, but it was never supposed that he really intended to harm himself. Yesterday afternoon he visited the factory and again informed his brother that he contemplated suicide, but was finally prevailed upon to go up stairs, and afterward he appeared more cheerful.

Before leaving the place, however, he declared that he would shoot himself, and informed his brother that he wanted to be buried decently, and he particularly desired that the brother should see that his wishes in this respect were carried out. From the store he went to the residence, which he entered by a back door, and laid down upon a lounge. His family were aware of his entrance, but supposing that he wished to rest, decided not to disturb him, and they sat up in one of the rooms until bedtime arrived. Once or twice one of his children visited his room, and saw him lying upon the lounge, but supposing him to be asleep did not disturb him.

Still later, one of the family again visited the room, and discovered what was supposed to be water upon the carpet, and upon prodacing a light the horrible discovery was made that the liquid was blood, and that Wolff was dead. He had shot himself in the right temple with a Smith & Wesson revolver, and as none of the family had heard any report, it is supposed that the muzzle of the weapon was, before being discharged, held close to the head, and the sound that otherwise would have been occasioned, was, in consequence, entirely deadened. Death had, to all appearances, ensued instantly.

An investigation made to-day reveals the fact that Mr. Wolff took a pistol of his own to several places yesterday afternoon and desired to have it cleaned and repaired immediately. His wishes in this respect could not be complied with, and he left the weapon at a small shop on Randolph street, and borrowed one from the proprietor of the place, promising to return it when he should call for his own. It appears, also, that he had this revolver on his person when he had the interview with the brother alluded to above. The deceased leaves a wife and four children.

FRANCE GROWING WEAK.

A Sad Confession from a Soldier.

A German officer writing from the army of Frederick Charles at Vendome, communicates the following important disclosure:

The evacuation of Orleans by the Army of the Loire took place so suddenly that a number of papers, containing very important information for us, were left behind and fell into our hands. I am able to give here some passages out of the letter of a Mobile Guard. It is addressed to his father, and gives undeniable proofs of the condition of things and the feelings of the soldiers in the enemy's army:

"In your last letter you say that mine did not appear to be written in good spirits. Well, I am not in good spirits. I had hoped and believed that we must at length triumph, as we were fighting for the best cause and with the noblest sentiments; but now I have no more hope. It is not fear nor surrounding misery that forces this confession from me; no, the simple use of my understanding makes me say these words. Six weeks ago I had an opportunity of noticing the whole efficient force of the Army of the Loire. I was full of confidence. I said to myself, that is a splendid army, both as regards numbers, equipments and intelligence, for the infantry was largely composed of Mobiles. I hoped that soldiers who knew what they were fighting for, and who were inflamed with zeal to work the salvation of their fatherland, would gain the greatest successes. I see now that neither strength of character nor the greatest zeal of heart can do anything against cannons. The whole of this Army of the Loire is broken up and dispersed.

What a terrible scene presented itself to us during our three day's stay in Vendome. Wounded were being brought in the whole time; more than a thousand, arrived, covered with blood and dirt.—The greater part were quiet, and bore their lot with resignation; only those whose pain was absolutely unbearable groaned aloud. Oh! how heartrending is the sight of all this agony. Much blood has flowed and we have been beaten; they wanted to hide it from us, but unfortunately we had proof positive, and this removed all my illusions. In Vendome we saw soldiers of every corps arrive who did not know where their regiments were; artillery came up without cannon, and the cavalry horses could not support themselves on their legs; in short nothing could be saddled, than to see these soldiers suffering from every possible want; they all said that it was quite useless to fight, and that as far as they could see, there was not the slightest chance of success. They had done all that they could, but to no purpose. They were completely demoralized. The Prussians made with their cannon the same as we with our rifles, viz: a platoon fire. They have, said our soldiers, as many cannons as they can bring up. And so the Loire Army became dispersed; it will have to be entirely newly organized, and even then I don't think it will be of much use. We are, above all, in want of a General, and I hardly think one will turn up.

"What will happen now, what will Gambetta attempt? I will not express my opinion, but the Minister is playing a high dangerous game. According to my ideas he ought to ask the people and not take such heavy responsibility on his own shoulders. In the end one side must be conquered, and if we weigh the respective chances of the combatants I fear it will be France. As I have already said, it is not fear, but the simple prompting of my understanding that makes me give vent to these ideas."

Cool Proceeding.

The early days of Wyoming Territory are well illustrated in this story: In the bar-room of a way-side tavern, where teamsters tarried to drink, a few rough customers sat one afternoon beside the stove. Enter a mountain ruffian; venomously drunk, who fetched out his revolver and commenced practising with it at various objects behind the bar and on the walls. While this was going on, the cries of an ox-teamster to his approaching cattle were heard, and soon the driver appeared within the door. Stalking up to the bar, he called for a glass of liquor; but, as he raised it to his dirty lips, the tumbler was shattered by a well aimed shot from the practising man's revolver. Without a word the bull whacker put his hand behind his back, produced his pistol, levelling it at the ruffian's head, and remarked, as the body dropped to the floor, "That d—d scoundrel would have hurt somebody pretty soon." He then filled another glass and drank the contents, strode out as deliberately as he had come in, and with a "Woa, haw, there!" started his oxen up the road.

Timely Preparation for Burial.

John Dye, a cheerful old Indianian, has a grave for himself, which he executed several years ago. He accomplished the work with his own hands, excavating the earth to a proper depth, having a stone slab on the bottom and walling it up the sides with brick. A similar slab is intended to cover the grave, and, what is singular, Mr. Dye has scooped out of the nether stone a hollow for his body to lie in, with an elevation in which there is another hollow for his head. It is his desire when he dies he shall be dressed in certain specified clothing, and that a blanket shall be laid in the tomb, upon which his remains are to be laid. Another blanket is to be spread over him, and the large slab of stone placed on the tomb, and the earth filled in above. It will be seen that he does away with the use of a coffin entirely, and he further requests that no burial service be used or sermon preached, and that no monument be erected to his memory. Recently a heavy rain caved in the earth above the tomb, and Mr. Dye set about repairs with a vigor that was surprising. To prevent the reoccurrence of the accident, he has walled the grave up to the surface of the earth, and carefully covered it with boards and soil. The grave is on his farm, and within a few rods of the railroad.

The armed rioters on the Chicago and South-western railroad, near Centreville, are endeavoring to force the general contractors to pay the debts of the sub-contracting firm which recently decamped. The rioters are not all laborers, but are acting for the creditors of the absconding contractors. They number over 100 and are well armed. They have forced all the laborers from the line, and threaten still further depredations. The Governor has been appealed to, and the Adjutant General will be sent down with a company of militia from Des Moines.

Weekly Toledo Blade.

A. P. MILLER D. R. LOCKE J. P. JONES.
MILLER, LOCKE & CO. Proprietors.

TOLEDO, OHIO, THURSDAY JAN 26, 1871.

MILITARY AND NAVAL INSTRUCTION.

The *Commercial* misapprehends our position in regard to the Military and Naval Academies. Against the institutions at West Point and Annapolis we have no prejudice, as to locality, teachers, or the studies pursued. Nor do we object to the government endowing institutions especially furnished to qualify young men for the Army and the Navy. Nor yet do we insist that an institution should be dismissed from support and confidence because some of its students behave in an unbecomming manner. Having thus briefly disposed of these misapprehensions we embrace this opportunity more fully to elaborate our views of the existing method of providing officers for the army and the navy.

We believe in schools having in view, specially, the training of youth for particular professions. We believe in schools of Law, Medicine, Theology, Agriculture. We believe in Naval and Military Schools And we believe also that both the National and State Governments should patronize and sustain Military and Naval Schools. We do not see how the necessities of these arms of our national defence can be supplied without well-endowed and well-equipped schools of this character. But, notwithstanding these concessions, we renew our objections to "the present method of educating officers for the army and the navy," as being too limited, partial, exclusive, and essentially anti-republican in its character.

The method is liable to objection because it is necessarily limited and partial. Each member of Congress is allowed, at certain intervals, to nominate a cadet, possessing certain physical and educational qualifications, who at once becomes a beneficiary of the government. He is boarded, clothed, housed, tutored and drilled at the public expense. He is entitled to a position in the army or navy according to his merit as a martinet. The cadets are selected, usually, from among the personal or political friends of the Congressmen making the nominations. The official life of the cadet begins in the grace of some friend in power, and not in any superior adaptation or ability of his own, over others for the profession into which he is introduced. Political and personal associations and considerations, not to allude to the contraband and mercenary influences of which we have had recent exposures, usually prevail in these appointments. Doubtless among the unfit ones, some good selections are made. But to one who is not fortunate enough to gain the favor of some one who has power to nominate, whatever his passion for the profession, or his ability to render distinguished service in it, the Government School is closed, and in consequence that branch of the service for which the school is designed to quality him. All not included in the favor of these schools are necessarily excluded, as their privileges are bounded by a certain limit. The best places in the regular army and navy are, of course, reserved for the graduates of these schools—and so long as the system itself is adhered to, this cannot be objected to.

This system had its origin in Europe—and grew out of the necessity of providing places for the portionless sons of aristocratic families, either in church, the army or the navy. Hence this system of cadetship, and training for life tenure appointments. The effect of this has been the same here as in other countries, snobbery, caste and exclusiveness—not in every case, of course—yet still in such a degree as to mark the system here with the same odious fruits which like institutions have borne in older countries.

Instead of having a favored few enjoy the privilege of governmental institutions, we would have them open for all who could fulfill the requirements now demanded of cadets. Let every one who enters these institutions conform to all the requirements of study, drill and discipline. If thought best, let tuition rooms and furniture be furnished free. But let every one furnish his own rations, and wear a uniform provided at his own cost, just as students of law, medicine or theology are compelled to do. The education furnished by these schools would be a good qualification for any business, even if the graduate should fail of a position in the army or navy, and therefore worth all it would cost the student. On land and sea educated talent is always in demand, and is even better paid and more heartily honored out of government employ than in it. And then, too, when a large volunteer army might be needed, there could be found a larger number of men qualified to become officers than under the present limited and partial system. The student thus graduated would have vastly more independence of character, more self-respect and self-reliance than under any beneficiary system. We object to the favoring and pampering of any body of men exclusively at the public expense. Let all properly qualified persons have access to the best facilities for a practical and scientific training for public usefulness. But let no select portion be favored above any other of equal merit. The States and the General Government have very properly done much to aid the cause of liberal education. The error has been not in doing too much, but too little in this direction. But only at the Military or Naval Academies has the government selected a body of men—nominated under a vicious, partial and corrupting system, to be educated, and provided for, in preference to other men, with official positions.

Under the system which we favor the government would have, in all probability, a larger number of qualified men to choose from. As it is, the cadet, after getting into the army, is held only by his necessities, or his sense of honor, as he may resign. The most versatile gifted and energetic graduates of our military and naval schools are almost inevitably drawn into private pursuits, or into political life, and the dull, mediocre, routine graduates left to take care of the army. Under a freer system the case would be very different.

Our cotemporary says that "the experience of the country in the late struggle pretty effectually silenced the opponents of special military and naval instruction. It would seem that any one who will make out a list of the most successful and useful leaders of our armies, as now recognized, will need no other argument on this point. While many officers from the civil walks of life did splendid service and gained deserved renown, it still remains true, that of those who came out of the war as acknowledged leaders, every one was indebted for his success to his military education at West Point." There is another side to this argument, which does not weigh so well in favor of West Point. The influence of the graduates of West Point in the army was, all through the war, strong enough to keep volunteer merit, however conspicuous or serviceable, in the back ground. With all the good they are taught the graduates of these schools know how to excuse their blunders by charging shortcoming on the volunteers, and how to retain positions which secure to themselves the credit for the efficiency of the volunteers. A West Point graduate is *per se* a critic, and in popular estimate, a judge in military matters. The volunteer is only a layman in his profession, whatever his real proficiency or ability. Many an able and meritorious volunteer found his way effectually closed, and opportunities for distinction in the service denied through the jealousy of the graduates of the schools. The West Pointer often had greatness thrust upon him in advance. The volunteer, untaught in the schools, whatever his merit, found the machinations of the skilful tacticians, in the way of his promotion. Gen. BUTLER was not the only man who had occasion to complain that he suffered from a violent attack of West Point. Other men of marked ability, from the volunteer ranks, might have a similar epitaph over their official graves. To prevent such invidiousness we would make the access to the schools too large and liberal to permit the growth of a class combination with strength sufficient to set aside conspicuous and serviceable merit.

A TREASURY LEAK WHICH MAY BE STOPPED.

We notice that a resolution has been offered in the Ohio Legislature to authorize an inquiry into the propriety of the Penitentiary making the gas by which it is lighted. The State pays a large sum every year to the Columbus gas works, at a rate of not less that $2.50 per thousand cubic feet for the gas consumed. With a gas apparatus of its own, which need not cost a very large amount of money, the cost of gas made by convict labor, need not be one-half, perhaps not one-third what it is now. At various times, in the past twenty years, the Legislature has had before it bills to provide for the supply of the Penitentiary with gas of its own making. But the lobby influence of the Columbus Gas Works has always been strong enough to defeat them. The President and directors of that institution are not to be blamed for keeping a good fat morsel of this kind in their own reach, but our legislators are not so free from blame in subjecting the State, year after year, to a needless and unwarrantable expense which can be so easily obviated. Nearly a thousand prisoners have the privilege of gas in their cells to read by until ten o'clock, and many of them use it regularly. Outside of the cells the consumption of gas is very considerable. Prison labor is cheap and abundant, and where a dollar can be saved it is the duty of the State to save it in the cost of running the prison. The Western Penitentiary in Allegheny City, Pennsylvania, makes its own gas at a cost not exceeding one dollar per thousand feet. Its gas works, planned by the prison engineer, and erected by convict labor, cost only a few hundred dollars. Even admitting that a larger outlay would be required at Columbus, still the saving would be very considerable. The State Asylums at Dayton, Newburg and Carthage, are all furnished gas at a lower rate than any of our institutions at Columbus are. This "fat take" is good for the gas works at the Capital, but we do not see it quite in that light, so far as the State Treasury is concerned. Stop that treasury leak. A penny saved is a penny earned.

☞ At the meeting in Cincinnati on last night, Mr. MURAT HALSTEAD, publisher and editor of the Cincinnati *Commercial*, gave the result of his observations in war-cursed Europe, as follows:

"Eastern France was threatened with famine and suffering from pestilence When war was declared there was more opposition in France to the commencement of hostilities than the agents of the French government had ever admitted. He had seen a body of three thousand men in the streets of Paris hurrahing for peace, but the journals of Paris did not chronicle this. The people drifted into war and naturally took sides with their own country. In conclusion, he said that, In the midst of all these misfortunes the French were fighting in the cause of Republicanism in Europe. He said he admired the German soldiers for their intelligence and manliness, the brilliancy of their generals, the splendor of German aristocracy; but the devotion and valor they had shown and that had gained unparalleled victories, meant, he was sorry to say, monarchial institutions in Europe. If the republic in France, through its armies, should succeed simply in maintaining the integrity of the territory of France, it would presently bring republicanism in Spain, Italy and finally in Germany. The French people had the true material for a republican government, for they had self-respect and the land belonged to the people. They had moral elements on which to found a true republic. The German soldiers all said they intended that this should be the last of the wars and that they intended to be called out no more, for whatever sacrifices were now necessary should be made freely, but this war should be the last.

☞ It is now said that the Prussian Government, while willing to indemnify the owners of the English vessels lately sunk in the Seine, decline to make any compensation to the crews for the hardships and losses they may have experienced in connections with the incident. If this is really the case the difficulty can by no means be considered as settled, for the protection of the privileges of her subjects is at least as much an object of the zealous care of the English Government as that of their mere property.

NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILROAD AND ITS BONDS.

The attention of those of our readers who may be looking about for good, safe and withal useful investments is invited to the advertisement of the bonds of the North Pacific Railway Company. This is a grand national highway, chartered by an act of Congress, and aided by large grants of land, in the hands of eminent and successful financiers, in whom the people of this country have every reason to have confidence.

First Mortgage railway bonds hold a high position as securities, and the bonds of the North Pacific are upon a basis so solid as to leave no doubt as to their safety, or as to their yielding large rates of interest to the investor.

The national importance of the Northern Pacific Railroad was believed to be so great that Congress granted the most stupendous land subsidy to the company, to aid in its construction, of which we have any knowledge; which, with judicious management, will in itself be fully equivalent to a direct guarantee of the payment of the bonds themselves. This land grant, in area, is an empire in itself, amounting to 22,000 acres per mile, and an aggregate of over 60,000,000 (sixty millions) of acres, and is of more varied and valuable physical character than exists elsewhere in the known world.

The testimony of scientific officers of the United States army who have surveyed and reported upon all portions of this belt, set forth invariably its richness of soil, mildness, and salubrity of climate, its comparative exemption from snow, its capacity of supporting a dense population, in positive and uniform accord. There is no section in the world where the certainty of larger crops of wheat, barley, oats, potatoes, and other roots is assured, and west of the Rocky Mountains, on this belt, apples, pears, plums, cherries, and other fruits are abundantly produced.

Our readers must bear in mind the fact that the snow falls on the belt traversed by this road are extremely light, rarely exceeding two feet in depth in the highest latitudes along the line, and lighter than they are in the Middle and New England States. This fact is fully attested by man and beast. The pasturage of this belt is a marvel to travellers. The domestic cattle of Montana, Idaho, Dakota, and Washington Territories range out all winter and are fat in March. Mexican horses brought here by Indians are turned out to shift for themselves on the range from latitude 45 to 53, and come in fat and strong in the spring.—Portions of this road will pass through the winter homes of buffalo, elk, deer, and antelope, which are always fat in the spring. Trains of pack mules thrive through the winter without forage while subjected to considerable service.

There is no question as to the mildness of the climate, the richness of the soil, and the feasibility of operating daily trains over this road the year through without interruption by snow.

Besides the agricultural resources of this belt, veins of bituminous coal of excellent quality and inexhaustible quantities cross this route in various places. Iron and other ores are found in abundance; and timber of the most valuable species and of all varieties, in quantities beyond computation, abounds along the belt of country through which this great North Pacific Road will pass.

Such, then, is the general character of the climate and productiveness of the land, and the certain assurance of operating the road at all seasons. *The trustees are required to keep and have at all times under their control, as security for the first mortgage bondholders, at least five hundred acres of average land to every thousand dollars of outstanding bonds*, besides the railroad itself, with its equipments and franchises.

Can there be any better security than these? We think not. It is equal to a bond and mortgage on improved city property.

The value of this empire of land will in part be measured by the revenue derived from a completed road and the inducements to settle upon the lands.

The way traffic and travel will depend upon the soil, climate, timber, fuel, minerals, and water power contiguous to it, as will also the settlement of the country; and we know that no road ever projected had all these features in such promise and certainty as the North Pacific.

The through traffic and travel has equal claims upon commerce over other routes, as the road will be the shortest of our trans-continental railways, of easiest grade, and cheapest; which is sufficient of itself to control the great bulk of the travel and business. It shortens the route between Lake Superior and Puget Sound, as compared with the distance between Chicago and San Francisco, 500 miles, and makes a great saving in expense. Owing to easier grades, it will be the shortest fastest, and cheapest route of commerce and travel between Asia and Europe, bringing China and Japan and Europe 1,667 miles nearer each other than by San Francisco, which is sufficient to control this traffic. On the whole, never was an enterprise entered upon which had equal prospects in itself; and when we add that our great national bankers and financiers, JAY COOKE & Co., mainly through those efforts our country was supplied with the sinews of war during our late struggle, have control of its finances, and a potent voice in its management, we may be well inspired with confidence that everything in connection with this enterprise will be managed with practical economy, safety, and integrity.

The advertisements which we present to our readers deserve and should receive the attention of all who wish to push forward an enterprise of world-wide benefit, while doing well for themselves.

Senator Sumner is said to be in full accord with the President's views on the Alabama claims, and contemplates introducing a bill embodying the recommendations of the President's message on this subject. He holds, with the majority of his committee that our government must either pay private claimants, or else allow them to present their bills to Great Britain for settlement.

NATIONALIZING THE ERIE CANAL.

The New York Daily *Bulletin* opposes the proposition of Mr. BENNETT, of Buffalo, to make a national highway, for both military and commercial purposes, of the Erie Canal on the ground that New York is not fit to be trusted with Federal money for that purpose. It thinks that $8,000 000 of Federal aid would make the corruption of the canal management worse than ever. It says that the canals belong to the people of the State and that they should see that they are made effective without Federal interference. It says the State has no right to tax commerce for general purposes, and if it continues to do so it will soon have no commerce to tax.

Our New York brethren must take into account two things: The power of railway management and combination to destroy the effectiveness of the canals, and secondly the competition for western trade offered by the Canadian thoroughfares. Something must be done or the trade of the Northwest, increasing with unprecedented rapidity, will be directed to British cities and British channels of trade. Once wonted to those channels it will be difficult to secure it again for our own water channels. The Erie Canal, whatever theories we may hold in regard to it, is a national highway. It has not only made Western New York, but has peopled all of Northern Ohio, Northern Indiana, Northern Illinois, and given the great impetus to the settlement and thrift of Michigan, Iowa, Wisconsin and Minnesota. By means of the connection between the Lakes and the ocean by means of this canal, the tide of human energy has been diverted from the waters of the Ohio southward to the fertile fields and prairies of the great northwest. Its enlargement and usefulness is quite as important to these states to-day as any national enterprize which receives subsidies from the Federal Government. The Western and Northwestern states have paid the state of New York in tolls the large amount of three millions per annum. This sum has not been used by the state for the repair of the line of the canal in which the west has an interest, but frittered away upon lateral canals which have saddled their burdens on the main line. The proposed national aid could not be diverted to jobs for the benefit of sectional and private interests as the revenues of the canal have been. That the Government grants might be abused and squandered is very true, but the commercial interests which ask this aid would be interested in seeing that it is not wasted but properly applied, and the management which has taxed the West so avily and is driving its trade into foreign channels would be none the worse for some watching by other States.

In the States bordering on the Lakes not one-fourth of the fertile lands are yet under cultivation. Unless more ample outlets are furnished, and a larger number of markets made accessible, how are the products of this vast agricultural region to be made saleable?

But this is not the whole view of the case. The North Pacific railway is about to open up a grand empire in the northern boundary of the United States. It will bring a vast commerce from the Pacific ocean to the waters of Lake Superior. As Mr. BENNET has shown, "over this grand highway there will be borne eastward not only the unlocked wealth of an almost measureless area of mining territory, but also that luxuriant and luxurious trade of eastern Asia, which in all ages of the world has given the scepter of commercial supremacy to the people who possessed it. For it is an admitted fact that the traffic of the Orient will traverse our continent by the route of the Northern Pacific Railroad when that is built, possessing the advantages which it will in its shorter distance, its easier grades, and the long stretches of water communication that connect with it."

The practical questions for New Yorkers and all Americans to consider is, shall we allow the better development and improvement of the St. Lawrence passage to divert away the immense traffic from the Erie Canal and the objective points to which it conducts? Shall that trade go through American or British territory? Shall it enrich and make populous American or British cities? Shall it be under our control in peace and in war, or in the power and at the mercy of a rival nation? To this duty, patriotism and an enlightened self-interest can make only one appropriate answer.

☞ The Democratic politicians are trying to work up an excitement against Gov. HAYES because of his refusal to order an election to supply the vacancy in Congress occasioned by the resignation of General SCHENCK. The expense of the election would necessarily be considerable, and the mileage of the new member quite an item. Yet all the service which he could render in this Congress would not exceed two weeks. The Governor is right in his position, as the tax payers of the State will probably perceive. The Governor has precedents from the official records of the administration of Governors T. W. BARTLEY, DENNISON and COX. Plunder rather than economy is the Democratic instinct.

☞ In political circles the question of nominees for the office of Governor of Ohio is beginning to receive some attention. Among the Republicans talked of for the nomination are Gens. BEATTY, of Morrow, and GARFIELD, of Portage, who are understood to refuse, as they prefer to stay in Congress. Hon. M. WELKER, of Wayne county, Judge STANLEY MATTHEWS, of Cincinnati, Hon. SAMUEL GALLOWAY, of Columbus, Gen. BUCKLAND, of Fremont, and Lieut. Gov. LEE, of Ohio, are also named. Either of the two last named gentlemen will receive a cordial support from northwestern Ohio. All the gentlemen named are qualified and worthy, and whoever receives the nomination on the Republican ticket is very sure to be the next Governor.

The Senate has concurred in the amendments to the House bill for the issue of three hundred millions five per cent. bonds. The bill now goes to the President for his signature.

DEFENCE OF THE COLORED CADET.

On Thursday last the trial of the colored cadet at West Point was concluded, he submitting a written defence. Cadet SMITH conducted his own defence with such good sense and propriety that a sincere respect for his character and ability was inspired in the minds of the Court and all beholders. It is said that the developments of the testimony produced a marked revulsion of feeling at the Academy, and the persecutors of the colored boy are beginning to feel the weight of the censure of just men. The prospect is that though the Court may feel bound to convict SMITH as guilty of a technical offence, yet that the Secretary of War, in the exercise of his discretionary power, on a review of the proceedings, will set aside the verdict and put Cadet SMITH back in his place, under circumstances which will greatly protect him in future from the annoyances he has heretofore encountered. The written defence of Cadet SMITH we give below, that our readers may see how well a colored boy can state his own cause;

I stand here to day charged with a most disgraceful act; one which not only affects my character, but will, if I am found guilty, affect it during my whole life, and I shall attempt in as few words as possible to show that I am as innocent of this charge as any person in this room.

I was reported on the 18th of December, 1870, for a trivial offense. For this offense I submitted an explanation to the Commandant of Cadets. In this explanation I stated the real cause of my committing the offence for which I was reported. But this cause, as stated, involved another cadet, who, finding himself charged with an act for which he was liable to punishment, denies all knowledge of it. He tries to establish his denial by giving evidence which I shall attempt to prove absurd.

On the morning of the 18th of December, 1870, at guard mounting, after the new guard had marched past the old guard, and the command of "Twos left, halt!" had been given, the new guard was about two or three yards to the front and right of the old guard. Then the command "Left backward dress!" was given to the new guard, "Order arms! Place, rest!" I then turned around toward Cadet Anderson, and said to him, "I wish you would not tread on my toes." This was said in a moderate tone, quite loud enough for him to hear. He replied, as I understood: "Keep your d—d toes out of the way!"

I said nothing more, and he said nothing more. I then heard Cadet Birney say to another cadet (I don't know who it was), standing by his side: "It (or the thing) is speaking to Mr. Anderson. If he were to speak to me I would knock him down!" I heard him distinctly, but as I knew he was interfering in an affair which did not concern him, I took no further notice of him, but turned around again to my original position in the ranks. What was said subsequently I do not know, for I paid no further attention to either party. I heard nothing at any time about taking my eyes away, or Cadet Anderson compromising his dignity.

Having thus reviewed the circumstances which gave rise to the charge, may it please the Court, I will say a word as to the witnesses. Each of these cadets testified to the fact that they have discussed the case in every particular, both with each other and with the other cadets. That is, they have found out each other's views and feelings in respect to it, compared the evidence which each should give, the probable result of the trial; and one has even testified that he has expressed a desire as to the result and has stated that his testimony should tend to accomplish his desire and bring about that result. Think you that Cadet Birney, with such a desire lurking in his breast, influencing his every thought and word, with such an end in view, could give evidence unbiased, unprejudiced, and free from that desire that "Cadet Smith might be sent away and proved a liar?" Think you that he could give evidence which should be "The truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help me God?"

It seems impossible for me to have justice done me by the evidence of such witnesses; but I will leave that for the Court to decide. There is another question here which must be answered by the finding of this Court.—It is this: "Shall Cadet Smith be allowed to complain to the Commandant of Cadets when he considers himself unjustly dealt with?" When the Court takes notice of the fact that this charge and these specifications are the result of a complaint made by me it will agree with me as to the importance its finding will have in answering that question. As to what that finding will be I can say nothing, but if the Court is convinced that I have lied then I shall expect a finding and sentence in accordance with such conviction.

A lie is as disgraceful to one man as another, be he white or black, and I say here, as I said to the Commandant of Cadets, "If I were guilty of telling a falsehood I should merit and expect the same punishment as any other Cadet;" but, as I said before, I am as innocent of this charge as any person in this room. The verdict of an infallable judge—conscience—is "Not Guilty," and that is the finding I ask of this Court.

CONGRESS.

In the Senate, on the 16th, the bill increasing the pensions of disabled soldiers, and of soldiers and sailors widows and children was reported back favorably. The bill to relieve citizens of Virginia of political disabilities was taken up, but was laid aside for the regular order, viz: the bill ceding to the State of Ohio jurisdiction over the national asylum for disabled soldiers at Dayton. The bill was debated for several hours, and without disposing of it, the Senate adjourned.

In the House, sundry bills were introduced, among them one to extend the provisions of the homestead law to the unsurveyed land. The members elect from Georgia were sworn in. A report was made upon the North Carolina contested election case, reporting that Mr. Shaber, the sitting member, was entitled to the seat. A bill was reported relating to telegraphic communication between the United States and foreign countries and passed without division. Adjourned.

In the Senate, on the 17th, a joint resolution was introduced by Mr. Yates to amend the Constitution so as to make eligible to the Presidency all persons who have attained the age of thirty-five and been residents of the country fourteen years. A joint resolution was introduced providing that no penalty shall be imposed upon any life insurance company incorporated by any State on account of any act of such company which is authorized by the United States. The bill ceding to Ohio jurisdiction over the ground occupied by the Soldier's Home at Dayton was passed by a vote of 25 to 13. The bill to refund to the States moneys advanced to the government during the rebellion was taken up and discussed. Without disposing of the bill, the Senate went into executive session and afterwards adjourned.

In the House, Mr. Butler offered a resolution authorizing the appointment of three Commissioners to examine and report upon aid granted by the Government to the Pacific and other railroad companies. The House went into Committee of the Whole and considered the Legislative, Executive and Judicial appropriation bill. Various amendments were proposed and rejected, the only one agreed to being a proposal to allow extra compensation to the Assistant Commissioner of Internal Revenue for two months of last year. The Committee then considered the Military Academy appropriation bill, after which the Committee rose and reported back both bills when the House passed the Academy bill and rejected the amendment to the legislative appropriation bill which repeals the law authorizing the publication in newspapers of the statues of Congress. Without further action, the House adjourned.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

An exchange tells of a live lizard found in the heart of a potato, which had entered through an opening the size of a knitting needle. This demonstrates, says the writer, that if a camel cannot go through the eye of a needle a lizard can. We should think it a demonstration rather that a lizard can go through the "eye" of a potato.

We are apt to suppose that what is understood by education is the best preventive of crime. But a statement made by General GARFIELD in Congress on yesterday shows that a regular occupation, or a trade, is the chief protection against it. Criminal statistics show that 98 per cent. of criminals had not learned trades and that 24 per cent. had not learned to read. The old couplet that Satan finds mischief for idle hands to do, is proven again by these figures. No homily addressed to boys on the importance of learning trades, can equal the force of these suggestive figures.

The latest development of the woman movement is a proposition to offer the ballot at every election, and where refused, prosecute the officers under the constitutional amendment. It is just possible that the ballot may yet be secured under this amendment. It needs only a few decisions in favor of female suffrage to give the women the entering wedge which will open the breach wide enough for the whole sex to enter. That this would not be so terrible a calamity as some suppose is somewhat indicated by the remarks of Miss LILLIE PECKHAM at the recent Woman's Suffrage Convention in Washington, which we publish elsewhere.

Whatever may be the literary fate of LOUIS NAPOLEAN'S life of CAESAR, it appears that he has done history a great service by the materials he collected as the basis of the work. Few biographers, if any, have ever had such means at their command for obtaining accurate information and new material for their works. He had only to apply to the philologists, archæologists, historians and soldiers of Europe, to undertake researches and collect materials, and his wishes were promptly acceded to. He therefore laid the men of this class in Europe under contribution, and the result was a mass of memoirs, dissertations, and studies sufficient to fill ten volumes. Distinguished military officers were employed in studies of the topography of ancient Gaul and of the scenes of CÆSAR'S battles, among whom was the Prussian Major, COHAUSEN, who discovered the true site of Alesia, concerning which so much doubt has existed among historians.

NAPOLEON, therefore, besides making history in our own time has added much that is valuable to our knowledge of ancient history. It seems strange that a man of such evident turn for literature and science, resembling in this respect Prince ALBERT, should have been the European representative of Absolutism and had such vast political and military ambition.

The New York *Sun* says that King WILLIAM'S New Years Address "declares not only war, but death against a whole nation." This inference may be tortured from his observation that "important tasks remain to be performed before we shall achieve a lasting peace." But we infer that it means simply that the French are to be whipped until they give up Alsace and Lorraine and offer some indemnity for the cost of the war into which they forced Germany. If they prefer the ruin of France to the concession which Germany demands, their blood must be upon their own heads. France without Alsace and Lorraine, without a single fortress which King WILLIAM demands, may again be a great nation with its "glorious history and its generous enthusiasm for liberty and civilization." But French pride will not yield, and assumes to dictate terms as though France and not Germany were the conqueror in the war. Suppose "a change of cases," and

There was a "cold spell" at the Rocky mountains moving eastward on Thursday. It reached Des Moines, Chicago and St Louis on yesterday (Friday), and the vanguard reached Toledo last night about 10 o'clock. But it seems to have been met at this point by a "force" of wind and rain from the north-east and driven back. It will be necessary, therefore, in noting meteorological despatches, to take account of more than one atmospheric army when we wish to prognosticate the weather. This success of the rain-storm in checking the advance of the cold snap and its occupation of this vicinity is timely and grateful, for the wells and cisterns are in need of rain.

The movement upon the North Pole, it seems, is to be renewed with unusual vigor. We recently noticed the fact that the expedition to be sent out by the Government of the United States would sail in May next, under the command of Captain HALL. Besids this, the French, Germans, Russians and Swedes have expeditions which have sailed or are about to sail, and it is hoped that this allied movement will wrest from BOREAS or THOR, or whatever ruler presides in those icy regions, at least a knowledge of his dominions. It is hoped, with better reason than ever before, that a breach may be found in the great Chinese wall of ice which he has erected south of his kingdom and that a passage into the Polar Sea which floats his commerce will be found

These unusual expectations are based upon the fact stated in a paper published by Dr PETERMAN, the successor of HUMBOLDT, that a vessel sent out by him to the neighborhood of Greenland drifted off to the east and north, following the Gulf Stream far up by Spitzbergen, and that far beyond the sea was seen to be still open. This open sea was also seen by Captain ROGERS of the United States Exploring Expedition in Behring's Straits.

It is thought therefore that the expedition which will follow the Gulf Stream will find the open Polar Sea. The fact that the warm currents of both oceans flow off into those regions indicates the strong probability of a sea into which they deposit of too high temperature to freeze, and, if so, the expedition which will follow one of these great ocean rivers to its mouth will find the long-sought Polar Sea, which, like another great polar magnet, has drawn a hundred expeditions into the frozen regions of the North. Who can doubt that the age which laid the Atlantic cable and cut the Mount Cenis Tunnel will navigate the Polar Sea?

A PARIS despatch says that "out of forty-seven Sisters of Charity attending the small-pox hospital, eleven have died." The praise of the Sisters is almost universal. Even those who are the most bitter against the Roman hierarchy and the corruptions of the Romish Church, are silent before the Sisters of Charity, or speak only to commend them. They are the class of whom it may be justly said, "none knows them but to love them, none name them but to praise." They are a special corps organized by the Captian of the Christian Faith to take care of the sick and wounded, and all who suffer in the war waged against Evil. The universal love accorded shows the triumph of love and goodness over creed, party and national differences, and gives us the true conception of the religion of Christ. The soldiers in our late war, of all creeds and of no creed, spoke of them only in blessings, and the war now raging in Europe finds them, not hovering over the battle fields like angels, but moving, as their Master moved while on earth, among the suffering, representing Him and in some degree taking His place. Some years ago, when the yellow fever raged at Norfolk, it will be remembered, that they remained to nurse the victims when all classes, including the clergy, men of all denominations, fled from the city. The secret of this courage and devotion is no secret after all. They simply obey the injunction of the Savior to leave all and follow Him. And the Sisterhood is recognized throughout the world as perhaps the brightest of those lights which Christians are commanded to let shine in such a way that men, seeing the good works, may glorify God. That is, the Sisters of Charity, by their works, stand among the very first of the influences which commend the Gospel to men.

These observations are mainly suggested by a Toledo letter published in *The Intelligencer*, written by a Protestant clergyman, in praise of the Sisters of St. Vincent's Asylum. They had received a Protestant woman who was dying with a cancer and who was friendless and penniless. Her wish to see a Protestant clergyman was promptly responded to and every facility was afforded the minister to administer the sacrament according to the forms of his own church. After the death of the woman, the funeral services, according to the same forms, were held in the same room. The minister observes that they watched over that charity patient with the greatest patience and tenderness, and one of them, when the remark was made that Christ would reward them, promptly and earnestly said: "I is for His sake that we do it." We suppose that there is no doubt of this, but we leave the facts, which we consider legitimate matter for mention in the secular press, to suggest their own comments.

The Pittsburgh *Commercial* calls attention to a presentment recently made by the grand jury in that city in which the statement occurs that "out of the whole number of cases before us, fully seven-eighths have been directly traceable to the use of liquor." The *Commercial* then asks the question, why are the effects of intemperance more terrible in this country than elsewhere? and thinks the cause may probably be found in climate. The fact is noted that intelligent foreigners, soon after arriving here, find it impossible to continue drinking as before without evil effects, and that on returning to Europe they are able to indulge again with the old impunity. It is possible that there is just a grain of value in this climate theory. The solution, however, we believe, has long since been found in the adulteration of the liquor sold in this country and in the tendency of Americans to drink, as they do nearly everything, to excess. Climate may have much to do with making the American the intense and nervous race they are, and thus create in them a demand for excessive stimulus or a weakness which is unable to resist appetite, but the explanation, we judge, is rather to be found in our abominable drinks and our general nervous habit.

Should this fact of climate be established in connection with the evil effects of American drinking, the *Commercial* supposes that the people would probably combine for the removal of the evil. It would certainly be some gain to the temperance advocates in the way of a point if the climate argument could be used against indulgence as it is now used in favor of it. But it could not have much more effect upon drinkers and legislatures than the present argument that alcohol is poisonous and that whisky, especially as sold in the United States, is a villainous poison. The climate theory, if established, would, as the *Commercial* suggests, destroy one of the arguments now used against legislation on the subject, but the effect would probably be only negative. The fact that seven-eighths of the cases brought before a Grand Jury, upon which the *Commercial* bases its article, were directly traceable to the use of liquor, is all the warrant any legislature should need for stringent legislation upon the liquor question. Any evil which produces so much positive crime and injury to society, certainly demands the most earnest attention and radical action of our law-makers.

The projectors of the Pacific road foresee the probability that the trade in the lighter and more costly commodities between Europe and Eastern Asia would cross the United States. It seems, however, not to have been thought of at the time that the trade between Australia and the mother country would take the American route. The project to run a line of steamers between San Francisco and Australia, which will doubtless be carried out by a New York Company under the auspices of Mr. WENN, promises to turn the Australian trade into this channel. But the opening of the Pacific road and the running of a line of steamers promises to do more than this. The present indications are that America will absorb the Australian trade and this Pacific dependency to the British Crown will before long peaceably separate from Great Britain. Already the country is brought into such relations with America that it is in many respects more dependent upon us than upon England. The immense distance between the mother country and the colony places the Australians at great disadvantage and they are looking to a nearer market. A correspondent of the London *Times*, writing from Melbourne, speaks of a representative merchant who favors cutting loose from England, and adds that Australia seems to be already divorced from the mother country. "Already," he says, "we seem to be connected more closely with America than with England. That stupendous work, the great American railway, gives us our European news in advance of the Peninsular and Oriental Company." One fact which he gives as astonishing is that Sir GEORGE GREY, the Governor of New Zealand, while traveling in this country, read the London news at Salt Lake City the day after it appeared in the London papers. Sir GEORGE is also reported to have said, "the colonists have not yet realized the full value of this route."

The revolutions of our railway and steamship lines are therefore of the most radical kind. Commercial changes bring political ones, and Australia may be knocking for admission into the American Union before we have fairly annexed Canada. At all events, the proposed steamship line, which the Postal Committee of Congress is in favor of giving a postal subsidy, will connect the Pacific Railroad with Australia by a regular line, and give us the trade of Australia.

A brass fog-whistle the largest ever made in America, and probably in the world, has been constructed in Portland for the Light-house Department. It is of 18 inches bore, weighs some 450 pounds, will require a boiler of fifty-horse power to furnish the steam to blow it, and it is supposed to be capable of representing the concentrated astonishment of the nation's tax-payers at the exorbitant price they have to pay annually for that other tremendous wind-instrument, the Capitol at Washington.

Correspondence.

Washington Letter.

CONGRESS—SENATOR MORTON AND EX-SECRETARY COX—SALARIES—PACIFIC MAIL SERVICE—THE WOMEN—APPORTIONMENT—MR. BANCROFT TO COME HOME—SAN DOMINGO COMMISSIONERS—THE CABINET—THE SOUTH.

Correspondence of the BLADE.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 14, 1871.

Congress having disposed of the San Domingo question for the present, is again pursuing the "even tenor of its way." The House is at work on the executive, legislative and judicial appropriation bill, and the Senate is discussing Mr. Trumbull's bill to discharge Congressmen from the duty of finding offices for their constituents. There is no expectation that such a bill can pass, but even its discussion ought to have a wholesome influence on the country.

By the way, Senator Morton, in his reply to Mr. Trumbull, who had stated that there were twice as many clerks in service as were needed, paid his respects for a few moments to ex-Secretary Cox, who, he said, had acquired some reputation in this matter of civil service reform, and had claimed that he was opposed by the politicians. On looking at the official register he found that when Mr. Cox entered on duty in the Interior department there were 689 clerks, and when he left it there were 688; so that his "civil service reform" for his own department amounted to one clerk. He then compared the course of the ex-secretary, who, he said, was writing articles on the subject for the North American Review and was otherwise seeking sympathy from the press, with Secretary Boutwell, who, without being the special advocate of civil service reform, had, during the same time, reduced the force in his department some four or five hundred.

More speeches are to be made on Mr. Trumbull's bill, but it was laid over to next Wednesday.

The movement of Senator Williams in favor of increasing the pay of Bureau officers has the favor of the Cabinet and many members of Congress and will probably be enacted into a law. It provides a salary of $4,500 for the Assistant Secretaries, Comptrollers, the Auditors, Solicitor, Register, Com. of Customs and Architect, in the Treasury department; and also for the Assistant Post Master Generals, the Commissioner of the Land Office, Com. of Pensions, and Com. of Indian Affairs.

Mr. Ramsey's bill for the establishment of mail steamship service between San Francisco and Australia provides for a contract with Ben. Holiday, Wm. H. Webb and others for carrying the mails monthly, touching at New Zealand, at price not exceeding half a million per annum.

The women, who have just closed their great convention with "flying colors," have had a "back lick" in the mammoth petition presented to Congress a day or two ago *against female suffrage*. The petition was signed by 1,000 persons, and among them are Mrs. Gen. Sherman, Mrs. Senator Sherman, Mrs. Jacob D. Cox, Mrs. Judge Bradley, Mrs. Hugh McCulloch, Mrs. Professor Henry, &c., &c. Many of the names carry great weight with them.

I mentioned the report of a bill in the House fixing the number of members to be elected from each State after the expiration of the next Congress. The number fixed upon is 280 and the rates of population for each district is 137,800, and if a State has a fraction which exceeds this number by one-half it is to have an additional member.

On this basis New Hampshire and Vermont will each loose a member, but no other State.

The following States will have the same representation as they have now:—Maine, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Delaware, Louisiana, Florida Oregon, West Virginia, Nevada and Nebraska.

The following will gain one member: Massachusetts, New York, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Alabama, Mississippi, California and Minnesota.

The following will gain two members: New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Georgia, Texas, Wisconsin, and Kansas.

The following will gain three members: Missouri, Michigan and Iowa.

It is pretty positively asserted that Mr. Bancroft is to be recalled from the Berlin mission and Mr. Orth appointed in his place. Mr. Bancroft was appointed by Andrew Johnson and is understood to sympathize with the old party with which he was associated.

The President's appointment of Commissioners for the San Domingo business frees him from the suspicion of packing the commission. The great body of the people will have confidence in such men as ex-Senator Wade, President White, Bishop Simpson and Dr. Howe. It is understood that the commission will sail immediately—next Tuesday. Hon. Allen G. Burton, of Kentucky, is to be secretary.

Senator Morton evidently has the confidence of President Grant more entirely than any other public man, and may be looked to as the exponent of the Administration in the Senate. Hence I do not doubt the report that the President is desirous of calling him into his Cabinet as Secretary of State. But whether he will do so or not probably depends on the action of the Democrats in the Indiana legislature. If they are able to fix things so as to have the choice of Mr. Morton's successor, it is not expected that he will resign. But if, as will probably be the case, his successor can be appointed by Governor Baker we may expect to see another change in the Cabinet after the fourth day of March.

Mr. Boutwell's bill for increasing salaries was introduced yesterday by Mr. Dawes. It discriminates more than the Senate bill, giving the assistant secretaries, the supervising architect, and the solicitor $5,000; the auditors $4,000; the second comptroller $4,000, and raising the salaries of chief clerks, heads of divisions, etc., but not of the clerks proper.

The information sent to Congress under cover of the President's message gives some very important facts in relation to the condition of the South which is likely to attract much attention. But the great question is as to what can be done to bring about a change in favor of peace and good order. BUCKEYE.

Western Correspondence.

LONE TREE, MERRICK COUNTY, NEBRASKA, Jan. 10th, 1871.

EDITOR BLADE:—Having been a reader of the BLADE for many years, and liking its style tip-top, I feel myself at home in making one acquaintance more or less intimate.

My object in writing is to let your many readers know that away out here in the great valley of the Platte, 130 miles west and west of Omaha, on the Union Pacific Railroad, is one of the finest bodies of land in the United States. 'Tis the county above mentioned, and lies between the Platte and Lamp Fork Rivers, entirely level, abundantly timbered and watered, blessed with the finest climate in the known world and healthy to excess, if such a thing could be. Our soil is second to none, producing blue joint and prairie from two to four tons per acre, making it one of the first stock growing regions extant. Fifty thousand acres, at least, of government and railroad land is vacant in the county. The population is about 700 souls. The railroad divides it from east to west. There are four stations, with post offices at each, and Lone Tree, the most central place, is the county seat, and during the coming season good, substantial county buildings will be erected. As yet there is plenty of vacant land within three miles of us. This wont last long, however, as every day brings new accessions to our numbers, especially soldiers, and as most of us are young men of that class they are more than welcome. Politically we are O K, and mean it wont be changed, too many soldiers for the snake to stop among us. Our population is exclusively American, the foreign element locating in adjoining counties where they have a better foot-hold. School advantages are good for a country so new and sparsely settled. Church matters are brightening—one being in course of erection at this place. Wild game is abundant—buffalo, elk, deer and antelope. Fur bearing animals are plenty, especially beaver, otter, mink and wolf. Thus far we have had no snow and with the exceptions of two or three days have had no cold weather. Farmers have had to feed none to speak of, in fact, stock does equally as well upon the range as long as there is no snow as with the best feeding, and as for snow, we are never blessed with any great quantity at once; sleigh riding is a luxury that has to be almost entirely dispensed with. Mud we seldom see, let it rain ever so much. We are troubled with drouth for the first time since the settlement of the county, last summer; still more than half a crop was realized and there was plenty for all and to spare. Fruit does well when it is cared for, and wild fruit abounds of all kinds, growing this far north. The valley of the Platte is from ten to thirty miles wide. And now, Mr. BLADE, if any of your readers come West, give us a call. None have ever left dissatisfied that have stayed one season; and to colonies forming we would say, come here and you will want to look no further, and you can't come too soon, as this wont always last. The coming season will make a great change. Come ahead, brother soldiers; 160 acres of land awaits you, at the trifling cost of $18, every foot of which is better than your best. You will be among friends; strangers there are none here.

Yours, truly, PIONEER.

TOLEDO ENTERPRISE AND PROGRESS.

EDITOR BLADE:—The following figures show the number and value of buildings erected during the year ending July 1, 1870, in the counties which contain the principal cities of Ohio:

	Buildings.	Value.	Population 1870.
1. Hamilton	1,034	2,400,500	260,617
2. Cuyahoga	1,388	1,102,062	191,585
3. Lucas	542	828,730	46,835
4. Montgomery	625	562,900	64,429
5. Richland	399	387,400	31,301
6. Summit	484	372,610	34,930
7. Butler	257	313,090	39,935
8. Stark	708	284,200	58,889
9. Franklin	350	207,500	63,450

The above are all the counties which have expended over two hundred thousand dollars during the year for buildings of all descriptions. It will be seen that the proportion to population shows a great excess in favor of Lucas; Toledo, in fact, with a population compared with Hamilton, of little more than one-sixth, it has expended for buildings more than one-third. It compares nearly as favorably with Cuyahoga. Faith in Toledo certainly has a firm basis. J. W. SCOTT.

A GOOD REFORM.

Civil Service Reform is a good one, but whenever needed the Temperance Reform is a better one. The people pay their officers and employes for honest, sober work. A government employe should keep sober so that the service may have the benefit of his best judgment, which, in far too many cases, is none too good in its best condition. The following extract from the Washington correspondent of the Cleveland *Herald* intimates that Secretary DELANO is inaugurating a reform among his clerks which cannot fail to benefit both the government and the men who are compelled to adopt it. We quote as follows:

Secretary Delano has broken in upon an old custom here which is frosted over with age, and which has been more severe in its effects upon young and old than the severest frosts of winter upon the tenderest of plants. I refer to the custom of drinking. A large number of clerks in all the Departments of Washington, are in the daily habit of steaming up during office hours—not at mid-day only—but frequently until many of them are totally unfitted for business. I am informed by some of the older class of clerks, that back, in the days of Polk, Pierce and Buchanan, it was the custom of some of the Bureau officers, as well as the clerks, to keep their bottles in their offices, for the benefit of themselves and their friends, but this wholesale business is not in vogue now, and those addicted to tippling, are supplied at more costly rates by the retail dealers. Some of the clerks who have large families must take their three, four, or a half dozen glasses of whiskey per day, even though their children are in want of bread or clothing; thus beggaring their families, unfitting themselves for business, and filling themselves for drunkard's graves. These profligates and topers give character too, to the great mass of clerks, who are economical, sober and industrious. Secretary Delano has taken active and summary measures to put an end to this evil practice in his department, and has given the gentlemen to understand, in plain terms, that if they serve whisky, they can't serve Uncle Sam. Some have been dismissed for this cause, and others have been notified that they are to follow suit; a few have been placed on probation, and a large number are on the anxious seat, expecting every day that the lightning will strike them. A gentleman from Ohio in office here, who has an interesting family, has been in the constant practice of taking his two or three drams a day—thus spending over one hundred dollars a year for liquor. He has been warned repeatedly, but to no purpose, and as a consequence he has recently become an outcast from office, threatens to take his own life, and should he carry his threats into execution, his office savings for the last ten years would not buy him a decent coffin.—This man represents a large class here.—Washington is the last place within our broad domain that a young man should be sent to, whose habits and principles are not as firmly fixed as the granite rocks. Once get into the great whirlpool of fashion, then comes the regular graduation down; parties, balls, and late hours, with champagne, wine and headaches; then the fashionable club-houses with cards, late suppers, whiskey and brandy added, then the gambling houses with all their free lunches and free suppers, and so on down with rapid strides to an ignominious grave.

Too much praise cannot be awarded to the Secretary of the Interior, for his efforts to put an end to this long established practice of clerks, in frequenting the tipping shops that surround and interior building, during office hours. Many heads may fall, as they ought, if the timely warnings are not heeded, but the benefit and good which will result to individuals, to families, and the public service will be invaluable.

Sojourner Truth uses this argument: "Did Jesus ever say anything against women? Not a word. But he did say awful hard things against men. You know what they were. And he knew them to be true. But he didn't say nothing 'gainst de woman.

When C. E. Stowe, of Barre, Vt., was in the cavalry during the war he protected the property of Peter Thompson, of Hagerstown, Md., from damage by the soldiery, and Mr. Thompson has recently sent Mr. Stowe $10,000 cash as a token of his gratitude.

POLITICAL REMINISCENCES.

The Crisis of 1841—How the Confirmation of Mr. Everett's Nomination to the English Mission was Secured—A Letter from Hon. Christopher Morgan.

To the Editor of the New York Times:

Gen. Schouller, who was for many years an able Whig editor at Boston and Cincinnati, is contributing interesting political reminiscences to the Boston Journal. His letters go back to the Presidential campaign of 1844, and contain graphic sketches of the proceedings of conventions and the characters of distinguished public men through that and several succeeding political conflicts. In a recent letter Gen. Schouller gives an account of a visit made by himself in company with Mr. Weed to Senator Morehead, at his residence in Covington, Ky., in 1854. During that visit the subject of Hon. Edward Everett's nomination as Minister to England was introduced. In speaking of the effort made to reject Mr. Everett, Gen. Schouller says:

"Senator Morehead said that the ablest speech against the confirmation was made by Senator King, of Alabama, who read a letter addressed by Mr. Everett, when a candidate for Governor, to the Free-Soilers of Massachusetts. Mr. King closed his speech as follows: 'I would tell you, Mr. President, that if this gentleman, holding views so opposite to the interests of the South and so destructive to its institutions, is appointed, this Union must and will be dissolved.'

Mr. Clay arose in his place, and pointing his long arm and fore-finger at Mr. King, said in a loud and firm voice:—'And I tell you, Mr. President, that if a gentleman so pre-eminently qualified for the post of Minister, should be rejected by the Senate, and for reasons given by the Senator from Alabama, that this Union is dissolved already.' He closed by saying 'all the arguments brought against Mr. Everett verged to one centre, which was that Mr. Everett was opposed on principle to the system of our Southern slavery. So is the whole of New England. So are many in the South.—So am I, although a holder of slaves.'"

Now, it strikes me that an incident preceding, connected with and bearing upon the debate just quoted, should be made known. The summer session of Congress in 1841 was alike eventual and exciting. Measures of vast national importance were pending. Webster, Clay, Silas Wright, Mangam, Southard, Crittenden, Benten, Calhoun, Preston, W. R. King, &c., were in the Senate. George Evans, Robert C. Winthrop, John Quincy Adams, Truman Smith, Ogden Hoffman, John C. Clark, Francis Granger, Millard Fillmore, Daniel D Barnard, John Sargent, Henry A. Wise, Edward Stanley, Lewis Williams, Joan Bell, &c., in the House of Representatives. President Harrison had been succeeded by Vice-President Tyler, whose then unpronounced course and policy awakened intense solitude both in Congress and throughout the country. That crisis in our affairs brought many prominent politicians to Washington, and among them the editor of the Albany Evening Journal. Mr. Weed passed much of his leisure time at my room on Pennsylvania avenue. One evening during our walk on Capitol Hill, we called on Senator Morehead, of Kentucky, with whom we found Senator Mangam, of North Carolina, where, with good cigars, rare Bourbon, and spirited conversation, we passed an agreeable evening. Finally, just before the small hours, we took our leave. Senator Morehead followed us to the door, and said that he had desired all the evening to make a communication to us, but had been restrained by the circumstance that it related to a question pending in Executive Session of the Senate. Impressed, however, as he was, with the knowledge that a great wrong was to be done, and feeling that he could confide in our discretion, he had determined to "free his mind." He then informed us that the Senate had been canvassed, and that Mr. Everett's nomination would be rejected on account of his abolition sentiments.—He said that he depreciated such a result as unjust to Mr. Everett, but still more because it would occasion injurious agitation throughout the country. He said that Mr. Clay, though opposed to the movement, only intended to give a silent vote for Mr. Everett. We expressed surprise that a majority of the Senate could be induced to commit an act of such reckless injustice, and after a little further conversation, he invited us back, and informed Mr. Mangam that he had confided a Senate secret to us. The latter gentleman then joined in the conversation, confirming Mr. Morehead's assurance that Mr. Everett's rejection was inevitable. He added that the leading Southern Senators, having decided to make the issue, most of the Democratic senators from Northern States would be constrained to go with them, to which with emphatic earnestness, Mr. Weed replied: "This great danger must be avoided. The effect of Mr. Everett's rejection for such a cause would arouse a feeling of popular indignation throughout the whole country." The Senators replied that if we could do anything to avert this evil, they would rejoice heartily, but that they had no power and but little hope. As we proceeded down the avenue, Mr. Weed repeated and reiterated, "This must be stopped—the country can't afford the agitation." Arriving at my room, I inquired how Mr. Weed proposed to "stop it?" He replied: "By appealing to the people through the press," adding, "if the responses get here in season, the Senators will recover their senses." He then wrote a brief letter to the Baltimore *Patriot*, announcing the fact that Mr. Everett was to be rejected as Minister to England on account of his alleged abolition sentiments, and appealing earnestly to the people to raise their voices against it. He then indicated the names of papers in Wilmington, Philadelphia, Harrisburg, Cincinnati, Trenton, New York, New Haven, Hartford, Springfield, Providence, Boston, Albany, Rochester, Buffalo, &c., &c., throughout the adjacent Northern and Western States. And we both went to work "with a will," writing letters in spirit, like that to the Baltimore *Patriot* to some twenty or twenty-five journals. This, together with several letters to prominent individuals, occupied us till long after sunrise. Between 6 and 7 A. M. we deposited our letters in the mail car. After breakfast, similar letters were written to Whig editors in Richmond, Norfolk, Winchester and Raleigh. By the mail of that evening, the Baltimore Patriot was received at Washington, containing the letters addressed to it, accompanied by a vigorous editorial denouncing the rejection of Mr. Everett in the strongest terms. Similar responses from day to day were received from all, of nearly all the journals to which we had written. The whole country seemed to have been impulsively aroused to avert an impending evil. And before action was had in Executive Session upon Mr. Everett's nomination, a very wholesome atmosphere pervaded not only the Hall of Representatives, but the Senate Chamber. And Mr. Everett's nomination, instead of being rejected, as was contemplated, was confirmed. Mr. Clay, whose first intention was not to participate in the debate, was moved partly by the provocation and opportunity which Mr. King's tirade gave him, and partly in respect to a public sentiment to which he was ever obedient, to make the eloquent and significant reply so happily remembered by Scott & Morehead.

CHRIST. PHIL MORGAN.

Auburn, Thursday, Dec. 1, 1870.

Miss Adelaide Murdoch, sister of the elocutionist tragedian, has entered the lecture field.

GOSSIP.

Missouri has a thief who boasts of 1,400 convictions.

General Prim's estate is estimated to be worth five millions of dollars.

Reputation is what men and women think of us. Character is what God and angels know of us.

General Anderson, of Fort Sumter fame, is in such delicate health that his friends are solicitous about him.

There are gorgeous scenes on the Ohio river now-a-days, at the bends in the stream where the ice has gorged in the narrow channel.

The Hamburg *Times* reports the death of a colored man from a peculiar cause. He owned a pair of mules that had the glanders, he caught the disease from them, and from it died.

A youngish woman, Antoinette —ts, who, in man's garb, once fought as a guerillia, in the Polish war, has command of a company of Franc Tireurs in the Vosges mountains.

More than eight hours in bed is said by the Boston *Transcript* to be debilitating; and if a peculiar temperament or avocation demands more sleep, a half hour nap at mid-day is recommended.

Many Eastern people have been poisoned by wearing crimson wrappers, drawers and stockings from the aniline used in the dye, and have only saved their lives by adopting white undergarments.

T. F. Gatchell, President of the Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals in Washington, has been arresting conductors and drivers for crowding their street cars as full as they would pack.

An unfortunate New Haven youth was recently so convinced that he had swallowed his two artificial teeth, plate and all, that he suffered horrors in imagination and a severe pain in his stomach. He afterwards found the teeth in his vest pocket.

The wife of President Cespedes, who has just been captured by the Spaniards and is in Havina, is described as being about twenty years old, of pleasant appearance, and lively in conversation. She says she has been kindly treated by the Spanish authorities.

Disraeli's wife is 79 years old. Years ago, she was a dressmaker in London. Disraeli saw her and wanted the mantuamaker to make a happy home for him; she wanted a man to make her happy also; and it was a trade, though she was 18 years older than her husband.

A lady leaving a reticule on a New York ferry-boat, the other night, jumped overboard and was drowned. Her reticule was found to contain $4,100 cash and bonds, a gold watch and chain, together with a statement that she had waited until heartbroken, bidding Henry farewell, and signed Eliza P.

Sullivan, a convicted murderer in the Toombs, New York, has not taken food for over a week. Efforts to force some whisky and coffee down his throat were ineffectual He shut his teeth firmly together, and, there is little doubt that he will persist in starving himself to death. The unfortunate man presents a sad sight. His cheeks are sunken and his eyes devoid of lustre.

Miss Glyn read Shakespeare's tragedy of "Anthony and Cleopatra," to a large and appreciative audience at Steinway Hall, New York recently. Her appearance is thus described by a theatrical critic: "She is a robust woman, of massive frame and imposing presence, has a boldly defined face, and dark eyes, which it is her pleasure to roll from side to side with astonishing rapidity. Her voice is very strong, and sometimes very sweet. She is manifestly a woman of real talent."

Huxley, the English savan, who has the reputation of being nearly or quite an atheist and materialist, has lately come out very decidedly in favor of the reading of the Bible in the common schools. He would have it done without any theological comments, and judiciously as to selections to be read. The ground of his advocacy of the Bible is, that there must be a moral substratum to a child's education to make it valuable; and that there is no other source from which this can be obtained at all comparable with the Bible.

The literary treasures which are imperilled by the present seige of Paris, are vast beyond description. Some idea may be formed of the number of volumes in the chief libraries, by the following statistics: The Royal Library contains 1,100,000 volumes, and 80,000 manuscripts. The St. Genevieve Library, 155,000 volumes and 2,000 manuscripts. The Mayarin Library, 150,000 volumes and 4,000 manuscripts. The Library of Sorbonne, 80,000 volumes and 900 manuscripts, and that of the Hotel de Ville, 65,000 volumes, making in the aggregate 1,630,000 volumes and 86,900 manuscripts.

Miss Kate Fields is the daughter of Mr. Fields, the actor, who often appeared on the boards of the old Third Street Theatre at Cincinnati. He was a man of literary culture, and a sparkling journalist. Her mother was an actress, and Miss Fields' talents as a speaker or writer, are therefore hereditary.

A church member once said to a minister who wanted a little more salary as his family increased: "I did not know that you preached for money." "No, I don't said the minister. "I thought you preached for souls." "So I do. But I couldn't live on souls, and if I could, it would take a good many the size of yours to make a meal."

Guerney's celebrated chromo, "Hiawatha's Wooing," after Jerome Thompson's masterpiece, has received the highest encomiums of art critics. The delineations of mountains, valleys, rivers, rocks, plains and skies, and the graceful figure of Minnehaha, hand in hand with her lover, are said to display the high artistic genius for which Jerome Thompson's pictures are proverbial.

Any reference to Senator Sumner's domestic affairs creates what the reporters call a sensation. He lives alone, in a very handsome style, in a house that was fitted up for Mrs. Sumner, who prefers a residence in Boston. She was a gay, fashionable widow, of rare beauty and accomplishments, when the Senator was weak enough to woo and wed her. He was about the last man to marry, or, if marrying, she was about the last woman to select. He wanted a wife to sit at his feet while he was at home and pour out unceasing praise, and during his absence read his speeches in the *Globe*, or those heavy volumes called his Works. Mrs. Sumner, however, had other notions connected with domestic bliss. She married the Senator—the distinguished Senator—of Massachusetts, and proposed to enjoy the advantages, in a social way, her position gave her. Balls, parties, receptions, suppers, dinners, and hops were her entertainments, and the works of the statesman were nauseating to her. Instead of poring over musty volumes and heavy State papers, and preparing from them tremendous speeches and reports, the Senator found himself dragged into entertainments that he despised, and all his valuable time fritered away. Domestic incompatibility, for these and other reasons not enumerated, began to manifest itself, and separation followed.

An Iowa town is named Seven Up.

New Orleans has thirty-four corn doctors.

An Iowa man has taught his pet pig to cry fire.

The Siamese twins have fifteen children living.

The London directory for the current year fills 3,800 pages.

Grand Rapids girls are suspended from school for gum chewing.

Indigestion and industry are two things seldom found united.

Too much study has made a Springfield negro boy, sixteen years old, insane.

A Florida gentleman proposes to fight an alligator with a butcher knife for $500.

A brother of the Marquis of Lorne is clerking in the office of Philip Maitland, New York.

Mr. J. F. Pratt, a well-known citizen of Memphis, died of chloral hydrate last Saturday night.

A fifty-year-old woman of Evansville just gave birth to her twenty-third child. Is there no way of stopping this?

Bret Harte is to contribute a number of new poems to *Harper's Weekly*, and they will be published with appropriate illustrations.

In chasing his hat, which the wind had blown off, John Hayes broke through the ice, at New Haven, on Sunday, and was drowned.

The oldest man in Montana is said to be "Old Hanks," who carried the infant Abraham Lincoln in his arms, and possesses his first watch.

"How do you define black as your hat?" said a schoolmaster to one of his pupils. "Darkness that may be felt," replied the youthful wit.

Prof. Gales H. Newhall, D. D., has resigned the Professorship of Belle Lettres in the Wesleyan University and will resume the work of a pastor.

Eighty-six different missionary societies are sustained by Protestantism, supporting four thousand missionaries, at an annual outlay of $5,000,000.

The microscope reveals the fact that a speck of potato rot, the size of a pin head, contains 200 ferocious little animals, biting and clawing each other savagely.

A confiding Kansas City husband handed his wife $400 to buy herself a Christmas present. She selected a pretty young clerk and flew to other climes with him.

The first child born in Greeley, Col., has been very properly christened "Horace Greeley," and properly presented a copy of "What I Know About farming."

Mr. Thomas Hughes tells his countrymen that wherever he went in the United States he found, contrary to his impression, a constrained, serious and almost sad people.

A child living in Detroit is no larger round than a man's forefinger. It is a month old, about six inches long, weighs one pound two ounces, and has never cried since born.

Six new ballads by Charels G. Leland, with the title of *Hans Breitmann as an Ublan*, have recently been published in London, and will soon be issued in Philadelphia, by T. B. Peterson & Bros.

The authorities of New Orleans have made war on the concert saloons, and notified the proprietors that theatrical performances, music, singing, and dancing in these establishments must cease at once, and forever.

The Rev. W. H. H. Murray, of Boston, is driving away some of the old standbys of the Park Street Church, by his liberal views on religious questions; but new standbys replace the outgoing ones, and his church is always crowded.

"Are you connected with a paper here?" asked a countryman of an inmate of the Indiana Insane Asylum. "Oh, no," was the reply, "I have been to the insane asylum and am cured; a man never runs a newspaper after he is cured."

An attorney once asked Mr. Beecher "Supposing that the parsons and the devil should litigate a cause, which party do you think would gain it?" "The devil, no doubt," replied Mr. Beecher; "as he would have all the lawyers on his side."

A young married woman, apparently in good health, fell dead in Coatesville, Chester County, Penn., a few days ago, while preparing dinner, and her aged mother, hastening down stairs on being summoned, fell and was killed instantly.

The Milwaukee *Sentinel*, which has just triumphantly vindicated Socrates against the assailed for and malicious assaults of the Indianapolis *Journal*, has chivalrously stepped forward as the champion of the much-maligned Eve, and denounces Adam, most unhesitatingly, as a sneak.

Brooklyn dramatic critics are getting to be very exacting and hard to please. Noticing a late performance, one of them says: "When two 'supes' are employed, in full view of the audience, in holding up the representation of a house, the illusion is destroyed to a degree that no audience can be expected to tolerate."

A fourteen year old girl was a witness in a recent Indiana divorce suit, and a portion of her evidence was as follows: "Father got mad because mother starched his stockings. Mother picked up the stockings and hit father on the head with them; it sounded as though they were sticks of wood. Father then stuffed a hot cake down mother's throat, and then mother set the dog on father and twisted the dog's tail to make him bite harder."

Mr. Thomas Hughes, when visiting Cornell University, tried to convert the students to his belief that cricket was a better game than base ball, but failed, as they considered cricket too slow. This Mr. Hughes conceives to be an index to the striking differences between American and English young men, there being a hurry and impatience characteristic of young Americans which is not to be found among their English cousins.

The following is said to have been a Yankee's reasoning on progress in transportation: "I kin recklect, ten or twelve years ago, that if I started from Bosting on a Wednesday, I cud git in Philadelphy on the next Saturday, makin' jist three days. Now I kin git from Bosting to Philadelphy in one day; and I've been cal'latin' that if the power of steam increasis for the next ten years as it has been doin' for the last ten years, I'd be in Philadelphy jist two days before I started from Bosting."

The name of Cadet Grant, son of the Government, frequently appears on the "book of delinquencies" at West Point in which all misdemeanors of cadets are reported. One entry against him is "Persistent disobedience of orders." Another is, "Laughing in the ranks." The reporting officers are not respecters of persons. The book is a curiosity to a civilian. "Scratching nose in ranks" "roused by a provoking mosquito;" "sneezing and coughing unnecessarily;" "coat skirt tucked in trousers;" "pants on top of boots;" "putting both hands in ranks (cause, as explanation says, by 'bug in ear');" "stamping in ranks"—all are complaints gravely entered.

The marquis of Lorne and the Princess Louise are to be made happy early in March.

"Mrs. Brown at the Play," is the title of a new work from the pen of Mr. Arthur Sketchly.

"Whittier and his Poetry" is the title of a lecture which Mr. C. H. Brainard, of Boston, has prepared.

George Sand's story of "Marquis of Villemar," is being translated by Ralph Keeler for *Every Saturday*.

The Albany *Journal* estimates that Tweed and his understrappers rob the public of about $80,000 a day.

Mr. Beecher has finally accepted the $20,000 salary which his congregation has repeatedly offered him.

A dramatic version of "Old Curiosity Shop" has been produced at the Olympic theatre in London, and received with great success.

A traveling piano player undertook to whip an Illinois editor, and when he got through, the piano pounder had only one ear for music.

Henry Rochefort has disappeared from Paris altogether. No one knows what has become of him, and it is rumored that he has been assassinated.

The Rev. C. E. Cheney, of Chicago, is threatened with a reprimand by the Episcopal Church, because, while absent on a visit to California, he preached in a Presbyterian pulpit.

Louise and Mary Alcott are opening the winter in Rome. During their recent stay in Florence, they were received with the most flattering attention in literary and artistic circles.

F. L. Ritter, professor of music, at Vassar College, has written a history of music, which is highly spoken of by musical critics, as a work tending to elevate the study of music to an art, rather than an accomplishment.

The Beecher family are thus divided on woman suffrage: Catherine and Thomas (oldest and youngest) are opposed to it, while the intermediate members, Edward, Henry, Harriet and Isabella, are in its favor.

Mrs. Disraeli is stated to be no less than sixteen years older than her husband, yet by no means to seem very old. Rumor says that their married life has been a very happy one, and he certainly treats her in public with genuine gallantry.

It looked curious to see Thackeray with his wife, for he was six feet three, and she was below the riddle height; so that she could barely reach his arm. Talking of his stature, he remarked to a friend of his: "After six feet, it all runs to seed."

A correspondent of the Portland *Transcript* claims to have in his possession a diary of Nathaniel Hawthorne, kept in 1816, found in the neighborhood of the old Hawthorne home in Raymond, Me., and in which the boyish thoughts and tastes of the great word-painter are written out.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The steamer Enterprise of Eastport, has been seized in British waters, for making use of a British flag and register to evade the laws.

The hard storm of rain and sleet destroyed nearly fifty miles of telegraph poles and wires, on the Pittsburg road west of Ft. Wayne, Ind., Saturday and Sunday.

A son of Mrs. Joseph McMurray, of South Charleston, Ohio, while playing in a grave-yard, Saturday, pulled one of the tombstones over on him, which crushed him to death.

A large shipper of wheat at St. Louis accuses the elevator men of that place with "sealage" to the extent of ten bushels to every car load.

The Indiana Senate on the 17th passed a resolution recognizing the validity of the few outstanding internal improvement bonds, and also a resolution condemning the Wabash Canal claim.

The will of the late Albert Barnes, which has just been admitted to probate, contains a clause directing that when the avails of his copyright amount to $1,000 or more, annually, $100 of the same shall be appropriated each year to some poor student preparing for the ministry.

The Titusville *Herald's* monthly oil report gives the total production during the month of December at 471,657 barrels or an average of 15,214 barrels per day. According to the statement of the *Courier* the total amount produced during the month was 507,252 barrels, showing a daily average of 16,401 barrels.

In the case to-day for damages against a man who had furnished information to a newspaper reporter which was afterwards published to the plaintiff's detriment, Judge Cox, of the Common Pleas Court at Cincinnati, said that where information was furnished through malice the party would have been as responsible as the paper, had it published it from such motives, and that where it was not a matter of general rumor without malice he would still be liable.

Congressman Cessna, who was with John Covode when he died, says that the night before he died Mr. Covode ate a hearty supper, and appeared cheerful. Soon after, however, he was attacked with a pain in the left side which did not leave him. It increased till 4 o'clock in the morning, when the physician told him he would be better in an hour. He answered, "Must I suffer this agony for an hour yet?" and almost immediately after said, "I am dying," and ceased to breathe.

At the close of last month the weather in England was severe. A London paper of December 30th says: "More snow fell in London on Wednesday night, but yesterday the weather was bright. In the afternoon there was a thaw. There were 10,000 skaters and sliders on the Serpentine, and no accident occurred. About 5,000 persons were on Long Water, Kensington Gardens and the Round Pond. There were no accidents. In the Regent's Park there were 20,000 skaters and sliders. The ice is now three inches thick."

The records of the Land Office at Vermillion show 339,861 acres of land taken in Dakota Territory last year, nearly all by pre-emption and homestead. The largest amount was in June, when 70,600 acres were taken. This was distributed as follows in the counties named: Clay, 75,000 acres; Yankton, 80,000 acres; Lincoln, 61,000 acres; Union, 42,000 acres; Bonhomme, 17,000 acres; Minnehaha, 37,000 acres; Brookings, 8,000 acres. In addition to this an office was opened at Springfield on the 21st of October, and 24,662 acres were taken at the new office opened at Pembina on the 19th, and probably enough taken to make the total amount in the Territory 400,000 acres, all by actual settlers. A large meeting was held here on Saturday to take steps to secure grants of land from the State of Nebraska, forfeited by other companies, with a view to building a railroad immediately from Columbus to Yankton.

The Union Pacific Railroad has as yet been unobstructed by snow. But a few inches has fallen.

The drouth in New York has got so bad that the milk peddlers have to give up part of their customers, because there is not water to extend the supply of milk.

The Senatorial election for Nebraska is exciting more than usual interest. The capital is crowded. The present indications are that General Thayer will be elected.

A German living in Sharon, Ohio, while on his way home from a night's debauch, recently, slipped and fell on the sidewalk. Being unable to rise, he was carried to his home, when, on being undressed, it was found that a pencil, which he carried in his pocket, had penetrated his side, near his heart, three or four inches. He died in about an hour.

According to statistics made up at the office of the State School Commissioner, the average number of pupils in daily attendance upon the schools of Ohio during the past school year was as follows: In townships—Boys in primary schools, 160,082; girls, 144,894. In high schools, boys, 515; girls, 560. In separate districts—Boys in primary schools, 67,383; girls, 62,096. In high schools, boys, 4,775; girls, 5,739.

The Attorney General, F. B. Pond, will submit to the Supreme Court, an opinion in the case of C. Burckholter vs. the Village of McConnellsville, in which he will take ground and endeavor to show that the authorities of incorporated towns may, under the present laws of Ohio, legally prohibit the sale of wine, ale, beer and porter within the corporate limits. The opinion does not discuss the constitutionality of the village ordinances prohibiting the sale of vinous and malt liquors, but holds that such ordinances are not in conflict either with the laws or settled policy of the State.

The decision of the Supreme Court of Rochester on Friday last, confirming the report of the Commissioners in the Suspension Bridge and Erie Junction Railroad case, enabled the Erie Company to place switches and frogs in position. Trains have been running since that time. On Saturday night the Central Railroad Company ran engines, etc., off the track, to prevent the Erie Company from laying the necessary rails at the intersection of that road. The obstructions, however, were promptly removed and the work completed.

At Troy, N. Y., the iron mills of the Messrs. Burden, Corning & Co., and John A. Griswold & Co., have all been compelled to stop for want of water to run the machinery. The only establishment now running in that neighborhood is Burden's steam mill, on the river flat, which draws its supply of water for the boilers from the river. Twelve or fifteen hundred men are deprived of work by these suspensions. "And," says the Albany *Journal*, "we are in the season when rains are not usual, and as there is no snow to be affected by a thaw, it is to be feared that many weeks will pass before these mills and others suspended for a like reason, can resume operations."

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Arthur's Home Magazine, price $2.00, and the BLADE both one year for $3.00.

The Little Corporal, price $1.50, and the BLADE both one year for $2 50.

The Nursery, price $1.50, and the BLADE both one year for $2.50.

American Agriculturist, price $1.50, and the BLADE both one year for $2.75.

American Farm Journal, price 75 cents, and the BLADE both one year for $2.25.

WEEKLIES.

Harper's Weekly, price $4.00, and the BLADE both one year for $4.75.

Harper's Bazar, price $4.00 and the BLADE both one year for $4.75.

Appleton's Journal, price $4.00, and the BLADE both one year for $4.75.

Prairie Farmer, price $2.00, and the BLADE both one year for $3.00.

Western Rural, price $2.00, and the BLADE both one year for $3.00.

The Chicago Advance, price $2.50, and the BLADE both one year for $3.00.

Every Saturday, price $5.00, and the BLADE both one year for $5 75.

Hearth and Home, price $3.00, and the BLADE both one year for $4.00.

Rural New Yorker, price $3.00, and the BLADE both one year for $3.75.

Oliver Optic's Boys and Girls, price $2.50, and the BLADE both one year for $3.25.

Waverly Magazine, price $4.00, and the BLADE both one year for $4.75.

New York Sun, price $1.00, and the BLADE both one year for $2.50.

Our agents everywhere are authorized to receive subscriptions at the above rates.

CLUB RATES.

Additions may be made to clubs at any time at club rates, and the papers for a club will be sent to as many different Post Offices as desired. Agents will please remember this in making up their lists.

WORKING TOOLS.

We furnish our Agents and all others who wish to get subscribers for the BLADE, with all the "working tools," such as posters specimen copies, &c., they can use to advantage. Send in your orders and they will be forwarded by return mail.

LOOK AFTER THE RENEWALS

Our agents everywhere are requested to look after the renewals of their clubs. Get the names here in time to prevent the paper from stopping and the regular files of subscribers from being broken.

HOW TO REMIT.

Money sent to us by Express pre-paid, by draft on New York, Philadelphia or Boston, by Post Office order, or in Registered Letter, will be at our risk—otherwise at the risk of the sender.

AMMUNITION.

Any of our Agents, or persons who wish to become such, who want specimen copies, or our new illustrated poster representing NASBY'S removal from his Post Office, should write for them and they will be sent at once.

SPECIMEN COPIES.

Remember that we send specimen copies *free and postage paid*, to any address sent us for that purpose, and we respectfully request our readers to send us the name of any of their friends who are not now subscribers and who they think would like to examine the BLADE. Send the names from as many different Post Offices as possible.

PARTICULAR NOTICE.

We again call attention to the fact that the papers and magazines on our clubbing list are *not* sent from the BLADE office, but from the offices of publication. Therefore it takes a little time for the first numbers to reach the subscribers, and they should not be impatient if they do not receive them immediately. If, at any time during the term of their subscription, they should fail to receive a number, they should write to the publishers, and not to us.

BOOKS.—The attention of our readers is solicited to the advertisement of T. J. BROWN in this issue of the BLADE. Mr. B. is an enterprising and reliable merchant of this city and will do as he stipulates. His book trade is large and all orders sent him will be filled satisfactorily.

To Cure A Cough, Cold or Sore Throat, use BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES. nov18w26-69

NOW

"There is a time for all things," the Good Book says, and *the present* is the VERY BEST time to obtain subscribers for the BLADE, when everybody, and all the rest of the people are (or ought to be) subscribing for good and useful periodicals, and especially for the TOLEDO BLADE.

Believing that every additional subscription will be the means of doing some good in at least one family, if not several, we are anxious to extend the circulation of the BLADE in every reading, thinking and progressive community throughout the whole country.

Our Agents all over the country are doing nobly, and names are coming in by the thousand, but our regular subscribers and our agent-friends still have full one hundred thousand neighbors who don't take the BLADE, but who would do so if its intrinsic merits were properly presented by a friend—one who takes and appreciates the paper.

Therefore almost every subscriber now on our list, (including YOU, reader,) can, by showing the BLADE, and explaining its character and merits, induce from one to ten or more persons to subscribe—for which kind and neighborly act he will ere long receive the thanks of those thus influenced to take the paper, to say nothing of the compensation he will receive for the time spent in the good work.

Thus may each and every subscriber, old and new, benefit himself, his neighbors and community.

Reader NOW is the best time in all the year to do this work. Won't YOU act upon the above suggestions, and see what you can do in the way of enlarging the circulation of the BLADE in your neighborhood?

THE MARCH OF JOURNALISM.

Journalism, in its quiet, but impressive and self-asserting march, is making many marked and positive innovations on the literature of this age, both secular and religious. The active, working effective minds of the age chiefly receive their information and inspirations on current topics from the daily or weekly press. A cultivated and thoughtful few, who have more leisure than the great majority of thinkers and workers, still cling to the ponderous book or treatise. But he who would reach the ears and hearts of the masses of intelligent readers must pay his court, in some form, to the journalistic oracles which the people are accustomed to consult.

Pamphleteering was once deemed a popular and effective way of disseminating political ideas. But that has passed away. In the days of WASHINGTON, ADAMS and JEFFERSON all the current problems of statesmanship, finance and trade were discussed in that form. But now no man dreams of airing his theories in that way. The nearest approach to that method is the speeches in the Congressional Globe. We leave those who read them to state from experience the effect produced. The short, brisk and well-condensed article in the public journal gives the busy world the ideas and information which control its action. Business men have no time for elaboration or repetition. They read as they live, on the wing—in keen pursuit of the objects which engross their energies. In the systematization of industry which has taken place, a class has arisen—a sort of literary priestnood—whose duty it is to arrange, digest and present for the use of the busy world the mental aliments from which it subsists. Their office is a most responsible one, as on their conscientious fidelity to the truth in all departments of intellectual exertion depend the well-being of the people of their time. They, of all others, should be sure that they endorse no error, screen no corruption, and give no wrong direction to the convictions of those under their influence.

As an instance of the changes in literature being gradually effected by the power of journalism, we may mention the determination of the American Tract Society to enter vigorously into the newspaper business, finding that the newspaper is much more attractive and influential than the tract. This is a sensible and business like change. Against the tract there is a prejudice in the minds of many, however judicious, entertaining or sprightly its matter may be. The paper has a variety. Its face is like that of a newly-arrived and welcome friend. The man, woman, or child, who would cast aside the tract, will drop work for a season to look over the paper, or will lay it aside for perusal in a leisure hour. In politics the power of the newspaper has been so entirely recognized that the pamphlet or tract method of diffusing political ideas has long since been laid aside.

An eastern clergyman, having had charge of a large congregation for nearly thirty years, in resigning his pulpit for the editorial chair, recognizes the power of the press, as related to and compared with other educating powers, in the following terms:

"Now I come to the third and the last view of the question I have taken, and that is as respects general usefulness in the world. I say to you frankly that I do not know of any position in this world I would prefer to the one offered to me. I say further, I know of no other position for which I would resign this and take that. The presidency of a college would not call me away; there is not a church in the land to whose call I would listen a moment; a professorship would not move me. The position offered to me is to be envied as a position of power. If you consider the immense circulation of that paper; that every weekly issue speaks to nearly a hundred thousand subscribers; that it speaks to more than seven thousand ministers; that, in all probability, half a million of human beings every week read that paper—is there any other field, of which I can think or you can think, where a minister, or a man at all competent to the task, can live so fast and live so long in thought and power in so brief a time?"

This is the whole case in a nutshell. In power for good or evil, the public journal is the most potential force in the world at this time, and its power is rapidly denuding other recognized forces of the monopoly of influence which they once possessed in their respective fields of operation.

AMERICAN FEELING TOWARD ITALY.

We frequently hear complaints from Catholic sympathisers with the Pope concerning his loss of the temporal power that the opposition to their cause is prompted by a sectarian motive—that Protestants desire to take a political advantage of their church in the time of its trouble. It seems to us, however, that those who thus complain have short memories, or they would accord to the opponents of the temporal power in the United States entire consistency of conduct in this matter. When England, a Protestant nation, compelled the Catholics of Ireland to maintain the English Church by the infamous and oppressive tithing system, the sentiment of the United States was against that odious system. When the English Ministry assented to the just demand for the disestablishment of the Church in Ireland, did not our congratulations and rejoicings sincerely mingle with those of the Catholics on the overthrow of this ancient injustice? We should also rejoice at the disestablishment of the Episcopal Church in England and the Presbyterian Church in Scotland, as a thing right in itself, just to all dissenters and unbelievers, and in consistency with the progress of the age in the direction of more complete religious liberty. American convictions are nowhere so strongly fixed as in opposition to the political union of Church and State. The traditions received from the fathers who fled from the corruptions and persecutions engendered by Church and State in Europe of the seventeenth century, and our experience in the happy workings of the free or voluntary system of church support, alike confirm the national judgment and conscience in this conviction.

The Catholic people, or that portion of them which sustain the demands of the Pope for temporal dominion, are the only body which is not in harmony with this national sentiment.

Rome is the natural capital of United Italy. The arrogant and supercilious claims of a political Church has heretofore prevented Rome from becoming the center and seat of the national authority. We rejoice that this grand old city has been delivered from a dominion which was as dull and unprogressive as it was bigoted and intolerant. An age of freer thought, of more rapid improvement, of freedom from religious persecution, is now inaugurated. The Pope is stripped of no legal right, and of no moral power. If the Italians do not give him all the liberty he wants let him come to America. He may dwell in any city of the country he likes best. He shall have the most ample respect, attention and protection. We will see that he behaves well and lacks for nothing. We can do without him if he chooses to wear his life away in that worn out country. But in this land of religious freedom and separation of Church and State, he will find a grander theater of moral and spiritual enterprise than any other land affords him. But we can not shed tears because at last he has been compelled to give up a political authority he should never have possessed, and which was used with a rigor and intolerance, which causes all the more fervent joy that it exists no more.

Shaw's Grand Auction Sale.

We would call the attention of capitalists and others desiring to make remunerative investments in real estate to the advertised auction sale of Dr. J. H. SHAW, the great and enterprising real estate dealer of the Northwest, to be held at the city of Buffalo, New York, on the 8th day of February next, at which time the Doctor proposes to sell without reservation, to the highest bidder, some Five Hundred choice and desirable lots in his first addition to the city of Buffalo. This property is most favorably located near the junction of the Erie and Central railways, and near where the principal transfer houses, buildings and works of said roads are soon to be erected—considerations that will induce practical men and capitalists to seek that portion of the city for manufacturing purposes, as they can readily command railroad facilities for receiving supplies and shipping manufactured articles unequaled in any other portion of that city.

Facilities for manufacturing are important advantages which the "East End" possesses over other portions of the city, and its growth and railroad advantages unerringly indicates that this will ere long be an important point for extensive factories of every description. The tide is already setting that way and a large number of business houses and manufactories will spring up within a few months. Buffalo contains every element for manufacturing prosperity and her only need is practical men, confidence, energy and abiding enterprise. Her manufacturers have been and are now doing well, they rank among the best and wealthiest institutions of the city. The field is open to others, and taking everything into consideration, we know of but few places presenting more favorable inducements for like operations than Buffalo.

From what we have been able to learn of this property, we are confident that great bargains can be secured at this coming sale as the property offered for sale must from its very location and favorable surrounding advance in value.

Sunday School Music.

THE SILVER SONG Sunday School music book, recently issued is having a large sale, and is very popular wherever introduced. One merit—indeed we might say *the* great merit of the book—is that while the music is such as to be easily learned by children—graceful, sweet and flowing—the words of all the songs in the book inculcate sound religious truth in language that all can understand. The book has been prepared with great care from beginning to end, and contains some of the best Sunday School hymns it has ever been our pleasure to hear. It is published by W. W. WHITNEY, Toledo, Ohio.

RARE PLANTS.—We call the attention of our readers to the advertisement of PETER HENDERSON, 67 Nassau street, New York, under the head, "Of interest to Farmers." MR. HENDERSON is an entirely reliable dealer and his catalogue is well worth the having, not only for the information it contains, but as a reliable work of art. Send for it.

☞ Five cents additional cost will buy shoes with silver tips, which will save the buyer the price of a new pair of shoes. Compared with ragged toes and dirty stockings, they are beautiful, to say the least. Try it

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE Chicago *Post*, in speaking of the election of SAULSBURY to the Senate says: "For a farm less than fifty miles square to have two United States Senators, the same as New York and Illinois, is bad enough; but for that microscopic domain to show so little respect for her colleagues as to elect two SAULSBURY'S at once, is an outrage, as good DOGBERRY remarked, 'most tolerable and not to be endured.'" But where is the unfitness? Are not the SAULSBURY'S in proper proportion to the State? Does the *Post* expect men like SUMNER from a State which adheres to the whipping post and gives a Democratic majority?

THE editor of the Chicago *Tribune* says that a gentleman recently called at the office and protested, politely but firmly, against the publication of any more of BRET HARTE'S poems in that journal. These poems, he maintained, were leveled against himself, were prompted by malicious intent, and were, moreover, inspired by "rank infidelity." The name of the gentleman is, of course, not given, but it is possible that it was none other than Mr. MUNGEN, of Ohio, who has recently distinguished himself by his effort against the "Heathen Chinee." He is reported to have said, on reading BRET HARTE'S poem, that "no good Democrat could stand a chance in a game of cards with such a fellow as AH SIN." We infer, though this does not appear in his speech, that he justifies the "scene which ensued," and that he exonerates MR. WILLIAM NYE, the leader and instigator of the attack upon AH SIN, from any blame. MR. MUNGEN'S remark reveals another motive for the strong Democratic opposition to the Chinese influx. All that class of Democrats of which Mr. NYE is the representative, are adepts in the trick of concealing "bowers" in the sleeve, and to be outdone at this by the "Heathen Chinee" is next to being "ruined by Chinese cheap labor."

THE Cincinnati *Chronicle*, in its rejoinder to our answer on the bombardment matter, begs to remind "the bloody BLADE that the atrocities of ancient warfare are not the standard by which modern hostilities are usually judged." Our point was that a modern bombardment was not so cruel and destructive of human life as an ancient seige, in illustration of which we cited the seige of Jerusalem. We did not intimate that "it was a mercy to the Parisian women and children to be killed by bombardment rather than to starve to death." What we did say was that the quickest method recognized by civilized warfare of reducing Paris was the most humane and merciful method. The bombardment is chiefly destructive of buildings and works of art, for shells have no discrimination as the *Chronicle* is probably aware, while a seige destroys the inhabitants by disease and starvation. Should the half of Paris be burned or knocked to pieces by the Prussian shells, there would probably not be more than a few thousand persons killed. The whole of Paris might be laid in ashes without destroying a tithe of the number of lives which were destroyed at the seige of Jerusalem and carried out of a single gate. We beg therefore to remind the tender *Chronicle* that the atrocities of a seige, whether ancient or modern, are much greater than those of a bombardment.

THE San Domingo question has attracted sufficient attention to make a statement of the several annexation projects of general interest. Secretary FISH, in his answer to the Senate resolution asking for information upon the subject, gave a history of former negotiations. Under President PIERCE, negotiations were opened for obtaining the Bay of Samana and General MCCLELLAN was sent out to make a survey of the bay. General MCCLELLAN reported that "the best possible feeling appears to prevail towards Americans." But the people afterwards became so indignant at the thought of transfer to the United States that the family of the American commercial agent was threatened with violence and the town cry became "Down with the Yankees." This, with the protests of the representatives of Spain, England and France, broke off the negotiations. Judging from this, the Commission sent out will not have much of a reliable nature to report of the disposition of the inhabitants.

The attempt of Spain to reconquer the Dominican republic during our rebellion again raised the question of a naval station for our Government, and when General CABRAL became President in 1866, he proposed, in order to raise money, to lease the Bay of Samana. Secretary SEWARD responded by proposing to purchase the bay for $2,000,000. The President was not authorized to sell, and the negotiations were broken off in 1867. A treaty was afterwards concluded between Hayti and San Domingo, in which it was agreed that no cession of territory should be made to any power, and President CABRAL issued a proclamation stating that he would not cede the Bay of Samana to the United States.

The need of money, however, in the following November, pressed CABRAL into another proposal to lease Samana, and in December, he intimated that necessity compelled him to a willingness to cede territory. In March following, (1868) a revolution overthrew CABRAL, and made BAEZ President.

BAEZ, in a few months, appealed to the United States for aid and protection and proposed annexation, but President JOHNSON was indifferent to the proposal.

In July, 1869, however, President GRANT sent General BABCOCK to San Domingo to obtain informat on concerning the island and the disposition of the people. He returned with the draft of a treaty containing the terms on which the BAEZ government would consent to annexation. Thus the question of annexation which is still pending was reopened. General BABCOCK and Mr. PERRY, our commercial agent, negotiated a treaty for annexation afterwards, and, as an alternative, a convention for the lease of Samana. The Senate, it will be remembered, rejected the treaty.

From this it will be seen that the people have generally been opposed to annexation and that proposals of the kind have come from the financial straits in which the Presidents have found themselves.

THE success of BRET HARTE'S poem on the "Heathen Chinee" has produced a crop of imitations, of a bad or indifferent quality, which has not been excelled in rankness since the days of POE'S "Raven" or EMERSON'S "Red Slayer." These are the compliments and tributes which the country pays to genius and are gratifying so far as they indicate that, notwithstanding our utilitarian tendencies, we have still a hearty relish of genuine wit and poetry. BRET HARTE is the best literary product of California, a region which seems to have some vital or electrical element in its air which develops newspapers and literary productions of peculiar and rare merit. He is superior to JOHN PHOENIX and MARK TWAIN, the next best products, in having a gift for the creation of serious works in still greater degree than his gift for humor.

It is this gift of which we wish to speak, for a prominent church journal has taken him to task for finding heroes and heroines among gamblers and outcasts like those of "Poker Flat," and a humorist who has gained considerable reputation by an inferior wit and by some poetry above the average, has written some verses intended to ridicule this tendency to find something tender and good in these classes. After the triumph of DICKENS in giving literature a new point of departure by selecting his materials so largely from the lower classes, we might expect the Pharisees and *dilettanti* to be silent. But they will probably have their say so long as there is an unfortunate or a wicked outcast to condemn to hopeless ruin. It was to "save the lost" that the Saviour came, and it seems that He found enough good in them to engage His love and draw Him to his death. The comprehension of this gave DICKENS the keynote to his works which were written, as he said to some one while among us, to show that every man might be saved. He was attacked at the outset by critics of the Pharisee class, as we find by an extract from a letter addressed to him and published in an American magazine more than a quarter of a century ago. This writer institutes a comparison between SCOTT and DICKENS and proceeds to exalt the one and debase the other as follows: "His imagination soared—yours grovelled; his revelled in the enchantment of a splendid fiction—yours in the most grotesque shapes of humanity; his associations hovered around castles—yours were familiar with the most decrepid rookeries; his knights placed their hands on the hilt of a blade—but anything they can get hold of will answer for your blackguards. When you have set your forces in motion, no eye hath looked on such an exhibition of tatters; it is as if prisons, poor-houses, garrets and cellars had turned out their inmates. Thieves, beggars, Jews and harlequins jostle each other in their sordid costumes—some in rags, some in tags, and some in velvet gowns." If DICKENS ever read this letter, he propably thought while doing so of the Man of Sorrows who went about doing good, eating with publicans and sinners, and dismissing the sinful woman without His condemnation and with the simple injunction to go and sin no more.

BRET HARTE is not therefore original in this, but he is original in having struck a literary "mine" or "lead" among the mining classes and in the mining districts which is more rich and durable than the gold which drew these materials together. AUERBACH has said that culture tends to separate men while religion tends to equalize them, but we see in modern culture a tendency to discover whatever good there is in the lower strata of society and to help it to gain the mastery. As a representative of this kind of culture, we welcome BRET HARTE.

IT will doubtless be interesting to the friends of female suffrage to notice the vote taken in the House, on the 20th, upon a proposed amendment to the District of Columbia bill to strike out the word "male." The passage of the bill with this amendment would have given women the ballot in the District and would have given them a good field for testing the workings of impartial suffrage. The abolition of Slavery was begun in the District, and the result which followed is no doubt indicative of what the result would have been had female suffrage been permitted. The vote stood, it will be seen, 55 for and 115 against the adoption of the amendment. The women should be encouraged by the progress which their cause is making, when some of the leading Governors gravely recommend woman suffrage in their recent messages, and when fifty-five members of the House vote in favor of the measure.

THE Chicago *Post* calls attention to the fact that in the recent Senatorial contest in that State none of the grosser appetites were pandered to. The four candidates, LOGAN, OGLESBY, PALMER and KOERNER, without any preliminary agreement, decreed that no liquors should be drank at their headquarters or at their expense. LOGAN is a public man of the COLFAX stamp in this respect, being a rigid teetotaller, and the ascendency of such men is certainly cause of congratulation to the country. This is all the more creditable to LOGAN because he comes from fields of former political triumph where liquor has been used as a matter of course in every contest.

The *Post* does not mention an element which entered into this Senatorial contest conspicuously and which doubtless had something to do with the spirit and propriety with which it was conducted. We allude to the part which Mrs. LOGAN took. The women may, from her success in presiding at the headquarters of the General, where her influence was doubtless felt in banishing wine and where the papers are all agreed it was especially felt in promoting the political interests of her husband, derive a fact in favor of the purifying influence of woman in politics. On the other hand, her example may be cited as an admirable illustration of the influence of women in politics without the ballot and operating in a sphere and by methods which are unquestionably legitimate. In speaking of the service which this lady rendered her husband, the Carbondale *News* says:

"From the fact in immediate notice we beg leave to impart two lessons: First, that Gov. Oglesby must remain a bachelor no longer; and secondly, that our public men must make up their minds to go; wives with brains in their heads, and souls in their natures. Heretofore, the editors of this country have managed to marry about all the tip top women going, leaving only one now and then for the politicians. If these, like the others, had just the right kind of wives, we would have civil service reform, the speedy payment of the national debt, the abolition of all 'rings' and land jobbing swindles, revenue reform, economical and just administration, wise legislation generally; and, in short, everything would be lovely."

Whatever the influences may be which are bringing it about, it is certain that we are entering upon a purer and better era in politics, when liquor will not be deemed a legitimate means of securing favor by honorable men and when as strict a course will be exacted of men in politics as is now exacted in business and in social life.

MUSICAL.—There is no mistake about the popularity of WHITNEY'S ten cent music. Orders are being received from all parts of the country. The set consists of ten beautiful songs, instrumental pieces, for the piano organ or melodeon and twenty charming social and Sabbath school songs arranged for four parts, and truly gems of song. The whole are printed in the usual size and style of sheet music. We assure our readers that there is no humbug about this music, and they can enclose their money with safety, as Mr. WHITNEY is one of Toledo's most reliable business men. Enclose one dollar and you will receive the thirty pieces of music, securely wrapped and post-paid by return mail. Address W. W. WHITNEY, Toledo, O.

Immediately after speaking, all professional men who exercise their voices should place one of Edeys Carbolic Troches upon the tongue, and allow it to dissolve slowly. It will allay irritation of the bronchial chords; and on the principle of "an ounce of preventives being better than an ounce of cure" will be more economical than waiting until the temporary irritation has become sealed, and the physician called in to prescribe for pneumonia and laryngitis. These troches are entirely harmless, they are sedative in their effect and they will dissipate all accumulation of phlegm at once. They can be had at all druggists.

MESSRS. ROSE of London, and RYAN of Canada are in Washington to make suggestions in favor of an amicable arrangement of the fishery troubles. They wish a speedy settlement of that and the Alabama claims question.

CONGRESS.

In the Senate, on the 18th, a resolution was adopted directing the Committee on Judiciary to examine and report how fare Congress is authorized to regulate fair and transportation on railroads between States. Mr. Morton asked leave to introduce a resolution providing for the appointment of a Committee of five to examine into the condition of the Southern States. Objection being made, Mr. Morton moved to take from the table the papers on the subject accompanying the President's Message with a view to their reference to a Committee. Considerable discussion followed, during which Senator Warner, of Alabama, referred to outrages and disturbances in that State during the last campaign as indicating the lawless condition of society in the South. Without action, the Senate adjourned.

In the House, the legislative appropriation bill was passed, with amendments increasing the appropriation to the Bureau of Education from $5,000 to $6,000 and the salaries of the Chief Justice and the Associate Justices to $8,500 and $8,000 respectively. A bill was introduced to enable the people of Washington Territory to form a State constitution and State government and its admission as a State. A bill was passed authorizing the sale of certain lands reserved for the use of the Monomee Indians in Wisconsin. The postoffice appropriation bill was passed. The resolution exonerating Mr. Brooks from the charges made by Mr. Hastings was adopted. Adjourned.

In the Senate, on the 19th, a petition was presented asking for the establishment of an umpire to prevent wars. The bill to abolish the offices of Admiral and Vice Admiral of the Navy was passed. The bill provides that the offices are to continue until a vacancy occurs. A bill was introduced and referred to secure cheap transportation for breadstuffs and provisions from the west to the seaboard at a uniform rate, providing for government aid to the Portland, Rutland, Oswego and Chicago Railroad. A bill for the relief of Mrs. Harmon, of East Tennessee, was passed. Mr. Morton's motion to refer the subject of the condition of society in the Southern States to a Committee was agreed to. Adjourned.

In the House a bill was introduced to aid in the construction of twenty or more first-class iron-clad steamships. A bill was introduced and referred to allow imported railroad iron to be transported in bond to the place where used. Mr. Peck introduced a resolution, which was referred, appropriating money to improve the Maumee River above Toledo. A bill from the Committee on Indian Affairs was reported to consolidate the Indian tribes and to organize an Indian Territory bounded on the North by Kansas, on the West by New Mexico and Texas, and on the East by Arkansas and Missouri. The bill to extent the time of constructing the railroad from the St. Croix river or lake to the west end of Lake Superior was discussed and laid over until Tuesday. The House went into Committee of the Whole and considered the diplomatic and consular appropriation bill. A remonstrance was presented against the cruelties of the war in France and asking an expression of sympathy by Congress for the Republic of France. Adjourned.

In the Senate, on the 20th, Mr. Sumner introduced a bill supplementary to the civil rights bill, the object of which is to secure a remedy for the indignities and proscription to which the colored people are subjected on railroad cars. A joint resolution was introduced to prevent obstructions to the navigations of the Ohio river which declares at what height above low water bridges shall be constructed. A bill was introduced to provide for a tunnel under the Hudson river at New York. A bill was introduced to carry into effect the Constitution and form of Government of the Indian Territory. A joint resolution was adopted extending the time of payment for settlers on public lands one year longer. The income-tax repeal bill was made the special order for Tuesday next, and after an Executive session, the Senate adjourned until Monday.

In the House, Mr. Sargeant had a paragraph read stating that General Blunt had testified before the Committee of investigation on Indian Affairs. He stated that the Committee had been unable to hear from General Blunt, and requested newspapers to make public the fact that the Committee desired his presence as a witness. The Senate bill to provide a government for the District of Columbia was passed. The bill provides for the appointment of a Governor by the the President, with the advice and consent of the Senate, who shall hold office for four years; for a council of eleven members, to be appointed in the same manner, to hold office for the term of two years; for a Secretary, to be appointed by the President, for four years, and for delegates in Congress. Adjourned.

On the 21st, in the House, speeches were made by Mr. Asper in favor of revenue reform; by Mr. Julian on the public land policy of the government; by Mr. Degener for the protection of the southern frontier of Texas against hostile Indians; by Mr. McKenzie on Southern reconstruction; by Mr. Lawrence in opposition to the bill passed on the 20th to create a new government for the District of Columbia; by Mr. Johnson in commendation of an article in the New York *Sun* condemning the principle of a bill to create a mining bureau, introduced by himself at the request of a friend, but not approved by him; by Mr. Sargent in defense of his vote yesterday in favor of woman suffrage in the District of Columbia; by Mr. Coburn, condemning some provisions of the bill to create a new government for the District of Columbia; and by Mr. Holman on the same subject. At 4:30 the House adjourned.

WASHINGTON NEWS

The Committee of Ways and Means, it is said, are not disposed to comply with Commissioner Pleasanton's request to take off the income tax, notwithstanding his earnest pressure to that effect. It will probably remain until next year when it expires by limitation. If it be repealed the revenue bill would have to be all revised to make up the deficiency caused by repealing the income tax.

Commissioner Wilson's friends in the Senate will make a fight to save him on the motion to confirm his successor. But the President carries too many guns for him. He will be removed.

The Appropriation Committee of the House have vigorously cut down the estimates of the War Department for the coming year. They have cut off about three quarters of a million of dollars.

In Executive session Carl Schurz made a gallant fight to prevent the confirmation of nominees designed to replace the Brown-Schurz men removed by the President, but he was unsuccessful.

Mr. Dawes is engaged in looking up the facts in regard to claims of about half a million for carrying mails. He will probably stop their payment.

Governor Bullock of Georgia writes to Washington that the course of Attorney General Akerman caused the defeat of the Republicans in Georgia at the recent election.

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Correspondence.

Washington Letters.

From our Regular Correspondent.

RAISING SALARIES—SAN DOMINGO—THE NEW DEPARTURE OF THE REPUBLICAN PARTY—SENATOR WILSON—PORTER—THE SOUTH—ABBOTT—THE FORCE IN THE WEST INDIES.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 17, 1871.

The warning of Judge Kelley, that if the work of increasing salaries is begun, it will be difficult to find a place to stop, is not likely to prevent either the beginning or the progress of that doubtful policy. Both Houses are considering bills for increasing the salaries of heads of Bureaus, such as Comptrollers, Auditors, &c., and on Satuaday the House had under consideration an amendment to the legislative and executive appropriation bill, which increases the salaries of United States Judges.

The amendment as originally proposed by Mr. Armstrong, raised the salary of the Chief Justice from $6,500, as at present, to $10,500, and the salaries of the Associate Justices from $6,000 to $10,000. After discussing the amendment awhile, Mr. Hale moved to amend the amendment by making it $8,500 and $8,000. Quite a large number of members, among them Gen. Butler, favored the larger sum. Mr. Dawes, whose opinion always carries with it much weight, said he was satisfied that the time had come when it was proper and necessary to increase these salaries; and the only question with him was as to the measure of increase. That question, he thought, should be settled in connection with another—the giving to these judges a life pension. He believed that the present compensation, increased about one-third, would be the just medium, and he should therefore favor the amendment of Mr. Hale. Finally, at the suggestion of some members, Mr. Armstrong accepted the amendment of Mr. Hale, and it was adopted. There is little doubt that this action will meet a favorable response from the Senate.

The San Domingo Commission have gone to New York and are expected to sail in the Tennessee to-day. It seems that General Sigel, who was at one time announced as having been appointed Secretary, is actually to go out with the commission as honorary secretary. The Secretary proper is Judge Benton of Kentucky. Under the wings of the commission are also gathered a botanist from the Agricultural Department, a geologist from the State Department (Prof. Wm. P. Blake), Frederick Douglass, the distinguished colored leader, and a host of newspaper men, among whom are Mr. Foley of the New York *Times*, Dr. Phillips of the *Herald*, Gen. Boynton of the Cincinnati *Gazette*, &c., &c. President White, the distinguished head of the Cornell University, has a wide reputation among scholars and his great success as an enducator seems to have suggested him to the President for the mission. S. G. Howe is also widely known through the country, but not as a politician. His work has been mainly among the unfortunate. He was foremost in sending supplies to Greece, and is at present at the head of the Boston Asylum for the training of the Deaf and Dumb. No three men could have been appointed to the commission less likely to pander to the political influences which are supposed to control this movement, than Ex-Senator Wade, President White and Dr. Howe.

The article of Senator Wilson in the Atlantic for January, on the new departure of the Republican party, is not a very brilliant piece of writing, but its suggestions are not without interest. It holds that the vocation of the Republican party is not gone, but that it must uphold the President in his Indian policy, must maintain the dignity of the country in its claims on other nations, must reform the civil service, and, above all, keep the Democrats out of power. Its new work or departure is the unification and education of the people. In other words, the great need of the times is to re-unite the people and carry education to every man's door. He holds up the example of Mr. Peabody and says our rich men should pour out their wealth to forward the work of education and to make this the model nation of the world.

The dispatch announcing the nomination of Senator Wilson for another term of six years, is very gratifying to the numerous friends of that very able and practical legislator, and must be a high source of satisfaction to himself. Massachusetts is fortunate in having many able and devoted sons, but the public service of Mr. Wilson has been so long and so important that it seemed cruel to think of putting him aside, even for such a man as Mr. Dawes.

The conformation of Admiral Porter, gratifying as it is to his vanity and cupidity, has not turned away from him the usual annoyances incident to human life, nor prevented him from getting sick. It is announced this morning that he has been obliged to take to his bed.

The condition of the South continues to cause great anxiety to the administration, and it is becoming more and more evident that something must be done to protect the new made citizens against the malice and vengeance of those who keep the country in a state of constant alarm. The reports of hundreds and thousands driven out of Tennessee are abundantly authenticated and it is believed that the same thing is going on in other States. Gen. Warner, one of the able Senators from Alabama, tells me that he was deliberately shot at twice during his canvass of the State and whilst he was engaged in addressing the people on the issues of the day.

Senator Abbott has announced his determination to contest the seat of Gov. Vance on the ground that the latter is not eligible on account of his rebellion and that the votes cast for him were null and void.

You will see that the President has sent a naval force to the West Indies to prevent any hostile demonstration against San Domingo by the Haytian Government during the pendency of the negotiations now going on and that the President of Hayti accedes to the propriety of his keeping quiet for the present. This is probably the real meaning of the charges that the President has kept a force in the vicinity of San Domingo to preserve Baez in power. There are rumors of a revolution against Baez, but they are probably circulated to prejudice the treaty negotiations.

BUCKEYE.

Correspondence of the BLADE.

DAYTON ASYLUM—COX ON THE PRESIDENT—GEORGIA SENATORS—BROOKS AND HASTINGS—DEBATE ON SOUTHERN MURDERS—APPROPRIATION—WEATHER.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 19, 1871.

EDITOR BLADE:—Mr. Sherman's bill for ceding to the State of Ohio jurisdiction over the property of the Dayton Soldier's Asylum, passed the Senate, after a warm discussion, in which Carpenter, Thurman, Williams, Conkling and Davis were against the bill and Howe, Sherman and Morton in its favor. The vote was, for the bill, 25; against it, 12. The bill will not be much delayed in the House, and it has, doubtless, been pressed forward in view of the expected election to fill the place made vacant by the resignation of Mr. Schenck. The contested seat question cannot be settled by this Congress, and hence the decision of the Court must continue to embarrass the election till it is changed by law. If Mr. Sherman's bill becomes a law the effect will be to release the voters of the Asylum from the pernicious decision of the Court.

Shoo-fly Cox got a *lick* at the President a day or two ago on Mr Dawes' improper amendment to pay acting Commissioner Douglas the salary of Commissioner while acting in that capacity after the resignation of Secretary Delano. Of course if Mr. Douglass is entitled to the pay of his chief there are hundreds of others who are entitled, for there is not a day but some interior officer has to perform the duties of his superior. When a Cabinet officer, or a Comptroller, or an Auditor goes away for the summer vacation or leaves on business, his place must be supplied, and it is difficult to see why such an officer should not be paid the salary of his chief if Mr. Douglass is so paid.

As soon as Mr. Dawes's motion was made a dozen members were on their feet to get the same thing done for some personal friend in like circumstance. Mr. Ela wanted pay for Samuel A. Duncan, who had performed the duty of Commissioner of Patents, Mr. Holman spoke a good word for James A. Morgan, who had performed the duty of Commissioner of Pensions, and Mr. Cox immediately suggested an allowance for Gen Dent, who, he said, run the White House while the President was off on his *philandering* expeditions. Mr. Hoar and others attempted to defend the President, but Cox rejoined, declaring that no other President had gone *philandering around the country to Long Branch and other places*, horseracing and smoking all the contraband cigars he could get, like Gen. Grant, and he wanted to know whether when thus absent, the Presidential pay was to go to Gen. Dent, or some other member of the Dent family. Mr. Dawes' amendment was agreed to.

The Senate have had a turn at Amnesty, but there is no indication as to what the vote on that question will be in either House.

The Judiciary Committee cannot agree on the Georgia Senators. Three of them (Trumbull, Conkling and Carpenter) are in favor of Hill and Miller, and three others (Edmonds, Rice and Stewart) are in favor of Farrow and Whitely. Mr. Thurman, (dem.) is on the Committee and goes for Hill and Miller.

The Brooks-Hastings quarre is making a very lively time. They are both editors, and both the House and the committee appear to "have got their foot in." The memorial of Mr. Hastings read before the House avers that the affidavit which Mr. Brooks had read to the House was a fiction which he had not made or signed, and that Mr. Brooks knew it when he brought it before the House. He contended that the quarrel was purely personal and did not belong to the House but to a court of common justice. Before the committee he took the same ground, saying he had brought the matter before a court where it properly belonged; and as divulging the particulars would prejudice his case before the court, he should refuse to answer any questions.

The committee came before the House yesterday for instructions, and a resolution was passed to the effect that as Hastings refused to testify, his conduct exonerated Mr. Brooks, and the further investigation was dropped.

There was a spirited and characteristic discussion in the Senate yesterday on the resolution offered by Mr. Morton to raise a special committee of five to whom the papers communicated by the President on the disorders of the South should be referred. Mr. Casserly and Mr. Thurman, the two ablest leaders of the Democracy, made slashing speeches, assailing the administration and claiming that the Republican party was in its last struggles and was soon to give way to a party more virtuous, competent and patriotic. Of course there were spirited replies by such men as Wilson, Morton, Nye, etc., and you will remark that Senator Wilson stated his undoubted confidence in the triumphant election of th Republican candidate in 1872. Great weight is attached to this declaration as coming from Mr Wilson who is known to be not only perfectly honest but one of the most sagacious and far seeing of our public men. The resolution was passed and will bring out a startling catalogue of murders and other gross outrages which, as was well said, surpass in magnitude the crimes of any other country during the same time.

The House has finished up and passed the legislative appropriation bill. Mr. Douglass got his extra pay retained in the bill by a vote of 91 to 90. The increased pay for the Judges of the Supreme Court got a vote of 112 to 47. But the most remarkable amendment was the increased appropriation to the department of education. At the last session, this department got very grudgingly and with many disparaging thrusts, $14,500, which was increased in this bill to $26,500 by a vote of 119 to 62.

The movement to appoint a commission to investigate the interests of our fisheries was not successful yesterday, but will come up again. It is pushed by Mr. Dawes and other strong members.

The weather here is dry and clear, and the wells and springs are exceedingly low—many of them utterly dried up.

BUCKEYE.

[From an Occasional Correspondent.]

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 16th, 1871.

Gen. Schenck, our new Minister to the Court of St. James, expects to sail on or about the first of February, and has planned to reach London in time to attend the European Conference there assembled. Whether he will prove a more acceptable Representative of the American mind than was Motley, remains to be seen. Perhaps the elegancies of the drawingroom may charm him less, and the sterner work of his position more. It is to be hoped that the Alabama claims may soon reach an amicable settlement, and if Schenck is the man to bring "John Bull" to terms, by all means let him "go in, and win."

San Domingo has been on the Congressional brain for a long time. There has been more confusion, more dallying, more wrangling and staving off of the question in hand, than one not an eyewitness could imagine. Hours and hours have been spent in voting in every possible way as to when this thing should be discussed, and it has been postponed from day to day, until the public patience was almost exhausted. But at last, something definite has been decided upon. Three men have been commissioned to spy out the land, and bring back a report thereof. Benjamin F. Wade, for many years a Senator from Ohio, and Professor White, of Cornell University, and Dr. S. G. Howe of Boston. Such a commission to the sunny Isle, at this season of the year cannot fail to be agreeable. Frederick Douglass favors the annexation of San Domingo to the United States, more for the good of that "isolated and desolated country," he says, than from the hope of any benefit accruing thereby to us.

Congressmen are already wrangling over the Centennial Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, appointed to be held in Philadelphia. Senator Conkling thinks New York ought to have it. Will the time ever come when there will not be something to quarrel about?

MRS. GRANT'S FIRST RECEPTION.

The first White House reception of the season, given by President and Mrs. Grant on the afternoon of the 10th, was very largely attended by those high in position and power. Secretaries Boutwell, Robeson and Belknap, and Postmaster-General Creswell, also foreign Ministers, Senators, Representatives, not a few, were in attendance. For an hour or more an almost continuous line of carriages were driven up the broad avenue leading from the street to the Executive Mansion. The day was cold and dark, and the sullen clouds portended snow, but each carriage was drawn up beneath the great portico, enabling the occupants to alight upon the elegant tapestry, laid down for their benefit. Elegantly attired ushers, in swallow tails, whisked about in the broad vestibule, indicating to the ladies where to go, and relieving the gentlemen of their necessary little appointments, hats, canes etc.

Through the red room passed the swaying crowd, some pausing to admire the exquisite bouquets of fragrant flowers, fresh from the conservatory, scattered in sweet profusion about the apartment into the room of blue, when near the entrance, stood the President, and by his side, Mrs. Grant. Reader, if you have never seen this same blue room, you will pardon me for pausing a moment to speak of its beauty. It seems to me almost the perfection of delicate taste. The tints are soft, harmonious, blending. No glowing colors tire the eye, but all is subdued, chaste, restful. The curtains were all closely drawn, excluding the forbidding aspect of the outer world, and there, in a blaze of gaslight, Mr. and Mrs. Grant, assisted by Mrs. Fish, Mrs. Dent, Mrs. Cole and Mrs Porter, received the people. Perhaps some of my countrywomen, my sisters, who read the BLADE by their own far away firesides, would like to hear something of the dress displayed on such an occasion in our metropolis. To begin with Mrs. Grant, she was attired in a pearl colored corded silk, en train, wrought with clusters of flowers, cut high in the neck, about which an elegant point lace collar was fastened with a diamond brooch; hair combed back from her face, arranged in puffs on the top of her head, and in braids at the back. She is a little woman, with an exceedingly gracious manner, and a pleasant, intelligent face, and seemed in the best possible spirits. Mrs. Fish, a majestic elderly lady, with white curls, wore a gray moire antique, trimmed with Brussels lace with jewels of gold and diamond. Mrs Gen Dent wore a silk of white and gold color, high corsage, over train of black lace, hair plainly combed; peach and coral ornaments. Mrs. Gen. Porter was dressed in black silk, with flowing train trimmed with white lace; headdress of cherry satin; jewelry of plain gold. Mrs. Cole, of New York, wore a dress of pink satin, long train, low corsage and short sleeves; overdress of Valenciennes lace, caught up with natural flowers; hair combed high in front, and ornamented with flowers. The President, with a face beaming with smiles, received the guests in a politely graceful manner, evincing extreme cordiality and good will toward all. The bright lights, the blooms of tuberose and heliotrope, filling the air with sweet odors, the brilliant costumes, the merry laugh, quick repartee, and the continuous hum of pleasant conversation, all seemed like some olden legend of enchanted castles, peopled by proud dames and brave knights.

At five o'clock the reception closed, and one by one the carriages rolled away, carrying with them the gay and brilliant ladies and courtly gentlemen. These receptions Mrs. Grant gives weekly throughout the winter. On the 11th and 12th was held the grand Suffrage Convention, to which came women delegates from all over the United States. Wednesday morning, about

FIFTY WOMEN

were assembled in the Judiciary Committee room of the House of Representatives to demand from Congressmen the right to vote and discharge all the duties of citizens. Mrs. Victoria Woodhull, who appeared to be the leader, claimed that she and all the women of the United States, were entitled to the franchise, under the 14th and 15th amendments to the Constitution. She is a woman of decided managing ability, as the records of Wall street show—a blonde, rather good looking, and of pleasing address. Both she, and her sister, Tennie C. Claflin, wear their hair short, which curls in little rings beneath the brims of their Alpine hats.

Hon. A. G. Riddle, of Chicago, whose manner does not belie his cognamon, but who gesticulated rather enigmatically, came next and made quite an effective speech. Mrs. Isabella Beecher Hooker, the President of the convention, a self-possessed, lady-like woman, with eyes as blue as the trimmings on her bonnet, followed in a short address, and Susan B. Anthony, the veteran champion, who for twenty years, through opposition and ridicule, has followed the trail of the war path, with right royal independence, added her ever ready testimony to the justness of the cause. In the afternoon a large and intelligent audience, in which was a considerable sprinkling of gentlemen, assembled in Lincoln Hall, to listen to the several addresses delivered by the ladies of

THE CONVENTION.

The meeting was opened with prayer by Rev. Olympia Brown, a slight, pale faced woman in a plain black dress. She prayed earnestly and long for the establishment of justice in this Christian Republic, and for equal rights for all, without respect to nationality, color or sex. Miss Lillie Peckham, of Ohio, made one of the pleasantest speeches of the day. She is fine looking, has a blooming complexion, and clear blue eyes, and wore her abundant brown hair floating over her shoulders. Her voice, though sufficiently loud and strong to be heard in the remotest corner of the large hall, is sweet and flute like, and her whole appearance is womanly. Just before the session closed, the sun, which all day long had hidden its face behind a wall of cloud, burst forth in setting glory, and sent its farewell rays over the whole platform, enveloping those earnest-faced women in a blaze of crimson light. In the evening at the Congregational church, Senator Nye presided, and Miss Kate Stanton, Mrs. Hooker, and the indomitable Susan B., made earnest and pointed speeches. Thursday evening, at 10 o'clock, the hall was again filled, and Mrs. Hooker introduced Senator Warren, who made a few preliminary remarks. He said that, in his opinion, women should not only have the right to vote, but should take their share in the responsibilities of self-government; that the question as to the propriety or delicacy of woman's voting at the polls, should be settled by herself, being, by nature, more refined and sensitive than man. Miss Paulina Davis, of Rhode Island, was introduced. She is a large, matronly looking lady; has a kind, pure face and an abundant suit of white hair. Her voice is not strong, and it was impossible for those in the rear of the building to hear her, but all seemed much pleased with her appearance.

THE RECRUIT FROM MICHIGAN

came next—Mrs. Adelle Hazlett, a plump little woman, with curls, keen eyes, and a voice just a little too shrill. She asked the gentlemen present if they could expect to gain, and retain the respect and love of women, while they set as despots over them, &c., &c. She said, "you may denounce these old pioneers," (pointing to the back of the stage,) "but from the dust of old Susan B. and Pauline Davis will arise a race of still greater agitators, who must ultimately conquer." Time and space do not allow me to make mention of all the speeches that were made.

At 3 o'clock the hall was densely crowded, and much more was said. In the course of the session, Frederick Douglass came upon the platform, and in compliance with urgent solicitation, delivered himself of a few remarks indicative of his sympathy with the woman cause. The meeting in the evening, at which Senator Wilson sat with the ladies upon the stage, was the grand finale of the convention. The able Senator elaborated at some length, upon the views he had held for 19 years, favorable to woman's suffrage, and said, that in which ever way it could be soonest effected, whether by introducing a 16th amendment, or acting upon the 14th, he was willing to do all in his power. Miss Anthony read some resolutions, and Mrs. Woodhull headed a subscription for the furtherance of the work with $10,000. The meeting closed—the convention was over, and the "strong-minded," each went her separate way, seemingly well pleased with the prospect ahead.

Whether any immediate results will follow, we wait to see. Congress will probably take action upon the question soon. In the Senate on Tuesday, a petition was presented by Senator Edmonds, signed by Mrs. Gen. Sherman, Mrs. Dahlgreen and others, in opposition to suffrage. They say that they will have a list soon of 1,000 names of the best women of Washington. Miss Adelaide Murdock, (who, it seems instead of being Miss Murdock, is Mrs. Nice, divorced wife of Mr. Nice,) delivered a lecture Tuesday evening, unfavorable to woman having the ballot. Thus these two opposing forces battle, each for that which seems to itself right and proper. Which shall win? Time, which sooner or later works out all abstruse problems, and settles all vexed questions, can alone decide; and that kind Providence which overruleth all things for good, will not fail to bring about results which shall be best and right.

VINNIE REAM,

the devoted little artist, may well be proud of her great success which crowns her long and ardous labor. Those who have been privileged to view her marble statue of President Lincoln, pronounce it truly, the work of a master hand. This well earned commendation cannot fail to gratify the sprightly Vinnie, for to have made to herself a name, is no small thing for one of her years. It has been suggested that the $10,000 appropriated by Congress for her remuneration, is too slight pay, for the hard work of 18 months, as her expenses have been large,—the block of marble alone, from which the statute was cut, costing her $2,000. It is quite probable that Congress will consider the matter, and compensate her as she deserves.

A. D. H.

Soldiers' Free Homestead Colony.

Under the provisions of a recent act of Congress, every person who served ninety days in the Army or Navy, during the Rebellion, and who remained loyal to the Government, is entitled to enter, as a free homestead, 160 acres of the alternate reserved sections of public land along the line of any railroad or other public works, where public lands have been or may be granted to aid such works. Their patents shall be issued under the Homestead Act to secure land to settlers. A proposition has been submitted to Congress, and will, undoubtedly, become a law, to allow soldiers to deduct the time they served in the army from the time required by the Homestead Law before receiving patent.

Hundreds of loyal soldiers are anxious to secure the benefits conferred by this law, but are discouraged by the many obstacles that confront the solitary pioneer. To obviate these difficulties, and assist all honorably discharged soldiers who desire to secure new homes where a more fertile soil offers better remuneration for his labor, and a new country opens wider possibilities for his children is the object of this organization. To promote these ends we agree to be governed by the following rules:

FIRST.—The Association shall be known as the Soldiers' Free Homestead Colony, and its object shall be to locate a colony on the alternate reserved sections of public land on the line of the Union Pacific Railroad.

SECOND.—The officers of the Association shall be a President, a Vice President and a Secretary, who may appoint an agent to transact the business of the Company, subject to their approval.

THIRD.—Any person who served not less than ninety days in the U. S. Army or Navy, during the Rebellion, and has been honorably discharged therefrom, may become a member of the Association by paying a fee of two dollars ($2.00) to the Agent and requesting to have his name entered among the members.

FOURTH.—The payment of the initiation fee shall entitle members, with their families, to first-class passage over railroads from which the Company secures special rates, at the lowest terms secured.

FIFTH.—The money received for fees shall be expended for advertising and defraying other expenses necessary for promoting the interests of the Colony.

The Union Pacific Railroad Company have a grant of 12,000,000 acres of the finest lands in the West. Interspersed with their lands is an equal amount of Government land, (being the alternate reserved sections,) which, by the late law, is now subject to free homestead entry by the soldiers of the late war. These lands are in all respects as desirable as the railroad lands, which sell readily from three to ten dollars per acre.—They lay on the line of the great national thoroughfare, between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, and in time must become the most valuable lands in the country.

Our Association includes no large capitalists, and offers no inducements to such to join. As we settle on Government land, which is subject only to homestead and preemption entry, there is no chance for "land sharks" to speculate from our members.—Our Company is composed mainly of men from the rank and file of our late armies, who prefer a year or two of privation in a new country, which promises a competence in future to a life of dependence and comparative poverty in the older States, where card al monopolizes business, and robs labor of its just reward.

An examining Committee has been sent West, who, after a thorough search through Nebraska, Kansas and Colorado, have reported unanimously in favor of a location in the Platte Valley. A description of the location will be found on page 35 of the Union Pacific Land Guide, a copy of which will be furnished to all applicants who send return postage. The lands include a station on the U. P. road, and the railroad company have pledged themselves to exert their influence to promote the interests of the settlement. Arrangements have been made with railroad companies from Buffalo, Erie and Cleveland, that will save from twelve to sixteen dollars on each fare, and give all our members first class passage on the regular express trains, either individually or in companies. Arrangements will be made from other points, where a sufficient number join, to justify our asking for a reduction.

The advantage of the colonization system for settling in the West, consist in simultaneous occupancy of the land, and by cooperation of labor and mutual help, each man makes for himself a permanent and comfortable home on his own tract. The maximum of each man's power is increased by union with the efforts of others. Although the country is new and strange, there is a community of feeling which gives a healthy tone to social life.

The officers of the Company ask no compensation for their services, and no privileges not granted to all members. The enterprise offers an opportunity never before presented to our returned soldiers to secure for themselves free homes on the line of a great railroad, where they can soon be surrounded by all the conveniences of old settlements. All returned soldiers are requested to act as our agents and those sending in names and fees of four members, will be entitled to a membership free. The Company will be ready to start about the first of April. Returned soldiers who contemplate moving west, will find it to their interest to locate with us.

For further particulars, address with stamp,

JOHN THORP,
West Farmington, Trumbull Co., Ohio.

The Fraudulent Helmbolds—How the Genuine Helmbold Protects His Customers and the Public Against Pirates.

Dr. Henry T. Helmbold, of New York city, has been out on the war path recently, and the field of his operations has been the city of Chicago. Dr. Helmbold is widely known throughout this country in connection with the celebrated "Buchu," said to be an efficacious remedy for many of the ills which flesh is heir to. The great demand for this preparation led certain unprincipled persons to get up a spurious article of the kind, and trade upon the Doctor's reputation. It appears that six months ago Dr. Helmbold learned that counterfeiters were at work, and that the market was being flooded with spurious articles bearing his name. The manufactory of the bogus article was finally found to be located at the rear of No. 100 Washington street, Chicago. The counterfeiter was a former specialist, and now engaged in the manufacture of spring beds. His piratical adventure was suggested to him by the names of two Germans, George and Fritz Helmbold, which he found in the city directory. They were both poor unsophisticated men, one of them being a mere boy, ignorant even of the English language. Whittier made a written contract with them, whereby he agreed to pay them $1,000 per annum for their labor in making spring-bed frames, and the additional sum of $10 per month for the use of their name in the making of medicinal preparations.

Having thus provided himself with a good name, Whittier proceeded to issue a preparation called "Helmbold's Buchu," with wrappers and labels closely resembling those of the genuine article. The real Helmbold soon heard of the fraud, and he at once made a descent upon the enemy. Whittier found himself enjoined by Judge Drummond of the United States Circuit Court from proceeding further in the fraud. An action was also commenced against him in the same court, in which damages were laid at $2,000, while proceedings were said to be in contemplation for his indictment for conspiracy. Sworn affidavits of George F. and Fritz Helmbold were placed in the hands of Dr. Helmbold's attorneys, disclosing the manner in which their names had been obtained. Under these circumstances, Whittier resolved upon an unconditional surrender. He delivered up the key of his laboratory, and handed over his lithograph stones, electrotypes, plates, dies, stamps, and all the material and equipments of his business, with a list of all parties who had purchased his spurious preparations, and the names of those to whom it had been consigned, or who were in any way connected with his nefarious business. He also gave a bond in $20,000 that he would abstain from similar trespasses for the future.

Dr. Helmbold's object in thus promptly checking the operations of the Chicago counterfeiter was less with a view to punish the pirate than to secure the public against any similar frauds that may be attempted. Having expended immense sums of money in advertising his extracts and remedies, and bringing home to the people a knowledge of their merits, he has determined to adopt such measures as will prevent anything but the genuine article from being foisted upon purchasers.

A fourteen-year-old girl was a witness in a recent Indiana divorce suit, and a portion of her evidence was as follows: "Father got mad because mother starched his stockings. Mother picked up the stockings and hit father on the head with them; it sounded as though they were sticks of wood. Father then stuffed a hot buckwheat cake down mother's throat and then mother set the dog on father and twisted the dog's tail to make him bite the harder."

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Jan26w

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Jan26w

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OF

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TO THE

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AT THE CITY OF BUFFALO.

SALE COMMENCING AT 10 O'CLOCK, A. M.

The Undersigned will offer for sale

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Located contiguous to the Junction of the Erie and Central Railways, and near where the Transfer and other important houses and buildings of said roads are to be erected, and which will, when completed, give employment to a large number of men. The situation of this property renders it especially one of the most eligible of the many additions which have been laid out since the city was originally platted. For residence for mechanics and laboring men, or for manufacturing purposes, it is as desirable as any location in the city. For speculative investment there is no better. Capitalists will find this a rare opportunity for safe and remunerative investment. Quite a large number of lots in this Addition have already been sold at Private Sale. Negotiations have been entered into with several extensive and wealthy manufacturing companies, and an extensive Woolen Factory will commence to build thereon in the Spring.

Sale Positive! No Reservation!

All Lots offered will be sold to the HIGHEST BIDDER.

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T. J. O'ROARK, Auctioneer.

jan26w2w

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Jan26-11-s-t&w1t

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HENRY CAREY BAIRD,
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Jan26-4t

Our Young Folks.

ON TIPTOE.

BY MARY HAINES GILBERT.

On tiptoe
Sally went to the closet, oh!
There to view
Sweet grapes and plumbs and apples too,
"Oh! how I wish I had just one!
Out went five fingers all for fun.
"But mamma said that I must wait
Per'aps when she comes she'll give me 8."

On tiptoe
Sally went to the window, oh!
There to see
Whether the town clock had struck 3,
"Baby's sleeping—I must be still,
Or he'll need a par'goric pill."
But baby opens wide his eyes,
And 'stead of crying, looks so wise.

On tiptoe
Sally went to the cradle, oh!
Him to kiss
That he his mamma should not miss,
"Hi let's dance this way—let's dance that,
Tickle his little chin so fat!
Pit-a pat—pit-a-pat! baker's man!
Roll 'em—turn 'em—fast as you can!"

On tiptoe
Mamma came up the long stairs, oh!
Just to see
Her own sweet darling in such glee.
"Oh, he has been so good!"
Then baby come to mamma would.
"Sally, child, ope the closet door."
Sally'll have 8 and something more.

On tiptoe
Sally reached the high shelf, oh!
There to get
Ripe fruit in gold-bound dishes set
"Sally, take as much as you choose."
Sally did not a moment lose.
In Sally's mouth a blue plum went,
And after it five more she sent, and a rosy
cheeked apple, and I don't know how many
purple grapes.

MAKE CHILDREN HAPPY.

BY FANNY M. BARTON.

"Oh, if I could bring my boys back, I would make home happier for them," said a woman whom everybody considered one of the best of mothers. She was sitting by her lonely fireside, thinking of the bright, roguish boys, whose frolics used to call forth motherly reproofs in the far-off past—Willie, and Charles, and Ned. She had three, and not one was left—there was nobody to call her mother. One went gaily away with the boys in blue, and never came back; two more died in the distant West. All left her with hope and ambition in their hearts; all were coming back to the old home, rich and famous, and she never saw them again.

But she was not thinking of the tall, strong men who went so confidently into the world to put down treachery with the sword, and to wrest gifts from fortune with their own right hands; her heart was going back—back to the time when three noisy, troublesome boys made such drafts upon her patience; to the time when Willie, afterward the hero, so tried her with his mischief; when Charles, her bright young scholar, asked her a thousand questions that she had not time to answer; and when Eddy, of the big blue eyes and fair, tangled curls, soiled all his pretty frocks, building dams in the roadside pools.

She could see now, sitting there alone, how they all followed the instincts of their nature; she could see very plainly that they needed guiding, not repressing. It was the constructive brain of the engineer that sent her youngest boy out among the muddy stones to build dams. He was very pretty; his curls and rosy lips, and fair high forehead were his mother's pride; she called him her girl-boy, and tried to keep him always clean and dainty; so there was many a struggle between the mother's vanity and the boy's nature, and as he grew older he often thought with longing of an independent life. The mother's influence was weakened by her injudicious love.

Her hands were folded idly in her lap. How she longed for a torn jacket to mend, with the boy who tore it sitting by the fire reading about Cæsar and Napoleon. She used to find fault with the stout-hearted little fellow for always reading about battles; she wished now, thinking of his heroic deeds at Gettysburg, that she had let him see more plainly how proud she was of her manly boy; she wished that his first experience of undue restriction had been outside of his home.

She had been ambitious for her boys; she had sacrificed for them strength and comfort; she loved them; but the expression of her love had been in those sacrifices that children have a right to. Our Father gives us more than food and clothing; He gives us sunshine; He gives us roses; He makes the world beautiful. And so this mother said, sitting still alone, "If I had my boys back, I would make them so happy! They should have a play-room, where they could build ships or play their noisy games without reproof." How cruel to tone down a child's soul to suit the condition of a nervous mother or a weary father! They should have a cheerful sitting-room, with books and pictures, and never be made to feel that strangers were more deserving of a pleasant room and bright smiles than they, her own precious boys. They should never long for the future because there was in the present no chance of freedom. They should be guided tenderly, denied hurtful indulgences, and, above all, never scolded for being boys, with the waking brain and bounding blood of boyhood. She, this regretful mother, saw that the faults of children are generally not faults of character, but of condition; that there must be the struggle of the germ before the development of blossom and fruit.

Are there not mothers to-day impatient of the traces of little feet and hands; of the roughness of undisciplined life, of the discord of young souls that nature is skillfully turning to noble melody, who will, by-and-by, sit alone weeping over what "might have been?"

Employment for Children.

"Mamma, what shall I do?" queries little Mary, one day after Willy had gone to school. The room was very still and quiet. John was in the field, baby was asleep and I was sewing.

"What shall you do, little one? You're not big enough to do anything!"

"Yes, mamma, I am!" she pleaded, but I went on with my work giving no more heed to the little one, but was soon convinced the child was right. She was big enough to do something, but that something was mischief. Hearing no sound from her, I looked about to see what the child was busying herself with so silently. On the floor, behind my chair, sat little Mary with my knitting, her own little stocking, and oh! in such condition. Every needle was drawn from the stitches and thrust into the stocking promiscuously; two or three rounds raveled, and the yarn tangled and twisted, till it was impossible to pick it out without breaking. She was trying to wind up the yarn, but unwound it instead.

"Mary, child, what are you doing?"

"Don't you see, mamma? I am knitting! but I've got done now; and gathering the disorderly mass in her apron she came and laid it in my lap. "I can't fix it, can you, won't you mamma?"

I was tempted to give the child a sharp reproof, but on consideration, only said:

"Mary isn't old enough to knit; see, a part of your pretty little stocking is spoiled. Now remember, dear, you mustn't try to knit any more."

"I will mamma; but I wanted to do something;" replied the little innocent.

The child really was not as much to blame as I. This is the first knitting I have had since last fall, and I have never told her until now not to meddle with it, so she did not disobey me and merited no reproof, acting with innocent, child-like ignorance. Then, too, she was idle; nothing to do and no one to play with, and I failed to give her amusement or employment, when she appealed to me. 'Tis said "Satan finds some mischief still for idle hands to do." There seems to be several atoms of truth in this. An infant as soon as it is able to use its little hands, is not satisfied unless it has something to play with. The child left to its own resources for employment is very liable to employ itself in doing mischief.

The young man that is reared in idleness is more apt to fall into dissipation and vice than the son of the farmer or mechanic whose days are filled up with cheerful health-inspiring labor.

I find that children require something to employ themselves with all the time. When Mary is alone with me, I keep her busy in some way the most of the time. Either with some trifling employment that she is able to do, or with some plaything. Anything that will keep her busy, and from doing mischief.

A Faithful Shepherd Boy.

Gerhardt was a German shepherd boy, and a noble fellow he was too, although he was very, very poor.

One day while he was watching his flock, which was feeding in a valley on the border of a forest, a hunter came out of the woods and asked:

"How far is it to the nearest village?"

"Six miles, sir," replied the boy, "but the road is only a sheep track, and very easily missed."

The hunter glances at the crooked track, and said:

"My lad, I am hungry, tired, and thirsty. I have lost my companions and missed my way. Leave your sheep and show me the road. I will pay you well."

"I can not leave my sheep, sir," rejoined Gerhardt. "They would stray into the forest, and be eaten by wolves, or stolen by robbers."

"Well, what of that?" queried the hunter. "They are not *your* sheep. The loss of one or more wouldn't be much to your master, and I'll give you more money than you have earned in a whole year."

"I can not go, sir, rejoined Gerhardt, very firmly. "My master pays me for my time, and he trusts me with his sheep. If I were to sell my time, which does not belong to me, and the sheep should get lost, it would be the same as if I stole them."

"Well," said the hunter, "will you trust your sheep with me while you go to the village to get some food and drink, and a guide? I will take good care of them for you.

The boy shook his head. "The sheep," said he "do not know your voice, and—" Gerhardt stopped speaking.

"And what? Can't you trust me? Do I look like a dishonest man?" asked the hunter, angrily.

"Sir," said the boy, "you tried to make me false to my trust, and wanted me to brake my word to my master. How do I know you would keep your word to me?"

The hunter laughed, for he felt that the boy had fairly cornered him. He said, "I see, my lad, that you are a good truthful boy. I will not forget you. Show me the road, and I will try to make it out my myself."

Gerhardt now offered the humble contents of his scrip to the hungry man, who, coarse as it was, ate it gladly. Presently his attendants came up, and Gerhardt to his surprise, found that the hunter was the grand duke, who owned all the country around. The duke was so pleased with the boy's honesty that he sent for him shortly after and had him educated. In after years Gerhardt became a very rich and powerful man, but he remained honest and true to his dying day.

Honesty, truth, and fidelity are precious jewels in the character of a child. When they spring from piety they are pure diamonds, and make their possessor very beautiful, very happy, very honorable, and very useful. May you, my readers, wear them as Gerhardt did. Then a greater than a duke will befriend you, for the great King will adopt you as his children, and you will become princes and princesses royal in the kingdom of God.—*Young Pilgrim.*

Keep Down the Weeds.

"You must keep down the weeds, darling," said grandpa as he raked in the garden, "and give the flowers plenty of water. Did you never think, Lina dear, that your mind was a garden?"

"My mind, grandpa?" And Lina set down her watering pot and looked up into the old man's face. "My mind a garden?" she repeated.

"Yes, dear. Your mind is that part of you in which you think and feel. Good thoughts and feelings are the flowers and fruit that grow in the gardens of our mind, and feelings the weeds. Now, suppose I were to let the weeds grow just as they liked all over this garden, what do you think would happen?"

"Just what has happened to neighbor Orton's garden," replied Lina. "The weeds would grow faster than the good plants and flowers, and cover them over, or kill them out."

"And as it is with neighbor Orton's garden," said grandpa, "so it is with the minds of his children. In their gardens the weeds have grown faster than the flowers."

"They are bad boys, I know," answered Lina.

"Because the father neglected the gardens of their minds, and did not pull up or keep down the evil weeds."

"O, now I understand, grandpa. And do we all have weeds in the gardens of our minds?"

"All of us, darling—the weeds of selfish thoughts and feelings—and whenever we discover them we should pull them up by the roots. God will make the flowers of love and mercy, of kindness and good-will, of patience, and self-denial, and all heaven-born graces, grow richly in our gardens if we but keep down the weeds."—*Children's Hour.*

Real Mean.

A little girl of eight years came home from school one day, and said in great eagerness to her mother:

"Ma, what do you think of Minnie? She says something dreadful!"

"What is it?" inquired her mother.

"Nothing, I hope, but what a little girl's mother may know."

The child then told her how she had been urged to join in some mischief she had been especially forbidden to meddle with, saying,

"I told her, ma, that God would be displeased if I did so—my mother says He would; and then she answered, 'Oh, I can ask God to forgive me when I get through!' but I told her I should be ashamed to ask him, if I knew beforehand it was wrong. And, ma, wouldn't it be mean to do a wicked thing, and then think God will forgive you just because He is so good? I think its real mean."

Mean, indeed! Little Laura, you are right. It is a great shame to venture upon any wrong thing, and then presume upon forgiveness. Besides, God never forgives in that way. He is not so easy with a sinner as that, and whoever supposes such a thing does not know God aright.—*Little Pilgrim.*

A POLITE BOY.—At one of the stations on a railroad, an old gentleman entered a crowded car, and, was looking around for a seat, when a boy of ten or twelve years rose and said: "Take my seat, sir." The offer was gladly accepted, and the old gentleman asked, "Why did you give me your seat?" "Because you are old, sir, and I am a boy," was the quick reply.

Wit and Humor.

A Poem in Indifferent Tenses.

That the English language, on account of its multifarious structural peculiarities, presents unusual difficulties to the foreigner, is well known. The irreconcilability of spelling and pronunciation is not the least of these. Its conjugations (or what we call conjugations, for in reality it has none) are of themselves almost insuperable obstacles to its acquirement. Of the difference that an infusion of sequence and regularity would make in its appearance, the following poem, clipped from *Punchinello*, will give the reader some idea:

THE LOVERS—ON A NEW PLAN.

Sally Salter, she was a young teacher, who taught,
And her friend, Charley Church, was a preacher, who praught,
Though his friends called him a screecher, who screaught.

His heart when he saw her kept sinking, and sunk,
And his eyes, meeting hers, began winking and wunk;
While she in her turn, fell to thinking, and thunk.

He hastened to woo her, and sweetly he wooed,
For his love grew, until to a mountain it growed,
And what he was longing to do, then he doed.

In secret he wanted to speak, and he spoke,
To seek with his lips what his heart long had soke;
So he managed to let the truth leak, and it leke.

He asked her to ride to the church, and they rode,
They so sweetly did glide, that they both thought they glode,
And they came to the place to be tied, and were tode.

Then homeward he said let us drive, and they drove,
And as soon as they wished to arrive they arrove,
For whatever he couldn't contrive, she controve.

The kiss he was dying to steal then he stole,
At the feet where he wanted to kneel then he knole,
And he said, "I feel better than ever I fole."

So they to each other kept clinging and clung,
While Time his swift circuit was winging, and wung;
And this was the thing he was bringing and brung:

The man Sally wanted to catch, and had caught—
That she wanted from others to snatch, and had snaught—
Was the one she now liked to scratch and she scraught.

And Charley's warm love began freezing, and froze,
While he took to teasing, and cruely toze
The girl he had wished to be squeezing and squoze.

"Wretch!" he cried, when she threatened to leave him, and left;
"How could you deceive me as you have deceft!"
And she answered, "I promised to cleve, and I've cleft."

From Twain's Memoranda in the Galaxy.

Mean People.

My ancient comrade, "Doesticks," in a letter from New York, quotes a printed paragraph concerning a story I used to tell to lecture audiences, about a wonderfully mean man whom I used to know, and then Mr. D throws himself into a passion and relates the following circumstance (writing on both sides of his paper, which is at least singular in a journalist, if not profane and indecent):

"Now I don't think much of that. I know a better thing about old Captain Asa T. Mann of this town. You see, old Mann use to own and command a pickaninny, bull headed, mud-turtle shaped craft of a schooner that hailed from Perth Amboy. Old Mann use to prance out of his little cove where he kept his three-cent craft, and steal along the coast of the dangerous Kill von Kull, on the larboard side of Staten Island, to smouch oysters from unguarded beds, or pick clams off sloops where the watch had gone to bed drunk. Well, once old Mann went on a long voyage—for him. He went down to Virginia, taking his wife and little boy with him. The old rap-scallion put on all sorts of airs, and pretended to keep up as strict a discipline as if his craft was a man-of-war. One day his darling baby tumbled overboard. A sailor named Jonas jumped over after him, and after cavorting about an hour or so, succeeded in getting the miserable little scion of a worthless sire on board again. Then old Mann got right up on his dignity—he put on all the dig he had handy—and in two minutes he had Jonas into double irons, and there he kept him three weeks, in the fire hold, for leaving the ship without orders."

I will not resurrect my own mean man, for possibly he might not show to good advantage in the presence of this gifted sailor; but I will enter a Toledo bridegroom against the son of the salt wave and let the winner take the money. I give the Toledo story just as it comes to me. It, too, is written on both sides of the paper; but as this correspondent is not a journalist, the act is only wicked, (not obscene).

In this village there lived, and continue to live, two chaps who in their bachelor days were chums. S., one of the chaps, tiring of single blessedness, took unto himself a wife and a wedding, with numerous pieces of silverware and things from congratulating friends. C., the other chap, sent in a handsome silver ladle, costing several dollars or more. Their friendship continued. A year later C. also entered into partnership for life with one of the fair Eves; and he also had a wedding. S. being worth something less than $20,000, thought he ought to return the compliment of a wedding present, and a happy thought struck him. He took that ladle down to the jeweler from whom it was purchased by C. the year before, and traded it off for silver salt dishes to present to C. and his bride."

Josh Billings Papers.

I don't kno az I think it iz a very difficult thing tew be a good injun up in heaven, but tew come down here and be a good injun, iz just where the tight spot comes in.

Forgiving our enemys has the same refreshing effeckt upon our souls ez it duz to confess our sins.

What a lamentable cuss man iz,—he pitys his nabors misfortunes, bi calling them judgments from heaven.

Wize men go thru this world az boys go to bed in the dark, whistling tew shorten the distance.

"The gods helo them who help themselfs." Upon the same principal mankind praze those who praze themselfs.

Falling in Love is like falling into molasses, sweet, but dredful dobby.

Hunters and gamblers are poor ekonomists, they kill time, a species of game that can't be produced.

Good breeding iz the art ov avoiding familiarity, and at the same time making the company satisfied with you and pleased with themselves.

Tew be happy—take things as they cum, and let them go just as they cum.

It takes a great deal ov money tew make a man rich, but it don't take but little virtew.

Ill iz the little things ov this life that plague us.

Musketers are plenty, elephants skarce.

What an agreeable world this would be tew live in it we could pump all the pride and selfishness out ov it! It would improve it az much az taking the fire and brimstone out ov the other world.

Don't mistake pleazure for happiness; it is intirely a different breed ov dogs. There iz a grate deal ov exquisit pleazure in happiness, but there iz a great deal ov pleazure that haz no happiness in it.

There iz only one thing that I can think ov now that I like tew see idleness in, and that iz, in molassies—I want my molassies slow and easy.

Experience haz the same effect on most folks that age haz on a goose—it makes them tuffer.

"Sewing Societies" are generally places whar the wimmin meet to rip and so—up the naborhood.

A lazy man iz one who haz no time to spare; an industrious man iz one who haz more time to spare than he knows what to do with.

It takes a smart man to conceal from others what he don't kno.

A lazy man always works harder than a bizzy one—the hardest work I kno ov iz to grunt—it is harder to sit still and fite flies than it iz to get up and escape from them.

The man who controls hiz pashuns sits at the helm ov hiz ship.

It iz very difficult to kalkulate upon success, unless a man sets up for a phool—in this department I have known hundreds to succeed, contrary to thare expectashuns.

I don't want enny better evidence that a man iz a phool than to see him cultivate excentrizity.

Wilkins Accepts.

Bob Crandall was a notorious blower and was constantly boasting of his luxurious living. To believe him, one would think he had turtle soup and salmon and peas all the year round—with whom delicious game and the choicest of earth's fruits were the most common things in the world. He was profuse in his invitations to friends to dinner, but they understanding his weakness, refused. One day, however, after an extra spread regarding luxuries he had purchased at the market, including venison, he concluded with the customary invitation:

"Come, Wilkins, go up and dine with me. You don't get venison every day."

Wilkins was his shopmate, a droll sort of fellow, and, after seeming to hesitate a bit, he replied:

"Well, I don't know; guess I will. This is fast day at my boarding house. Thankyou."

Bob's face lengthened perceptibly, but he tried to appear cheerful. The attempt was a failure; but the invitation was accepted.

At one o'clock they started for Bob's house, which was some distance away, and every step they took seemed to him to be on nettles. At last says he:

"I've just thought that, as this is Friday, Mrs. Crandall may have postponed cooking the venison I bought this morning till to-morrow. Shouldn't wonder if we had to dine on fish; but sardines will not be bad."

Wilkins assured him that he liked nothing better than sardines; indeed, he should prefer them to venison.

Upon reaching the house there was an ancient and fish-like smell prevading the premises, at which Bob's face instantly brightened.

"I told you so," said he, "smell 'em?"

Wilkins replied in the affirmative.

"There's no woman in this place that cooks sardines better than my wife, said Bob, and he looked as if he challenged the world to compete with Mrs. C.

Wilkins was introduced.

Make no apology for the dinner, my dear," said Bob: "my friend Wilkins is very fond of sardines. Serve 'em up."

Dinner was according served and there, smoking hot upon the table, was a couple of crusty salt mackerel, boiled!

"Uncle Dad Morton," of Vermont, who tells the following story, should possess, in connection with his invention, two or three of our lion-persuaders. His success would then be complete:

"Them ancestors of our'n didn't do nothin' half-ways. But there's an awful fallin' off since them times. Why, in my time, when I was a boy, things went on more economical than now. We all worked. My work was to take care of the hens and chickings, (Dad is famous for his handling of the alphabet), and I'll tell yer how I raised 'em. You know I's a very thinkin' child, al'as a thinkin' 'cept when I's asleep Well, it came to me one night to raise a big lot o' chickings from one hen, and I'll tell you how I did it. I took an ole whisky-barrel and filled it up with fresh eggs, and then put it on the south side of the barn, with some horse manure around it, and then set the old hen on the bung-hole. The old critter kept her sittin', and in three week I heers a little 'peep.' Then I put my ear to the spigot, when the peeping growed like a swarm of bees. I didn't say anything to the folks about the hatchin', for they'd all told me I was a fool; but the next morn' I knocked the head out of the barrel, and covered the barn floor, two deep, all over with little chickings. Now you may laugh as much as you please, but it's true."

A GAY OLD FELLOW.—Old Gran'ther Grayling is somewhere in the vicinity of ninety-seven, and yet he is one of the most vigorous old fellows alive. One night, in Munroe's grocery, he disclaimed all the infirmities of age, and to confirm what he said, he then and there danced a double shuffle in the most youthful manner, putting in the heel and toe with vigorous elasticity. He holds rheumatic people in half contempt, never feeling a twinge. A few days since he visited a neighbor who he heard was sick.

"Hallo!" cried he, as he sailed in, what's the matter?"

"O, rheumatism, gran'ther!" was the reply; "oh-h-h! that twinges?"

"Rheumatism!" said the old man, in a tone of contempt; "what do you want to have that for? I used to have it when I was a cussed young whelp of about sixty-five, but I soon outgrew it."

He spun round the room as he said this like a tectotum, while his friend lay groaning.

A distinguished American artist once was visited in his studio by a little party of ladies, all strangers to him. At last they went away; but one of the women soon returned alone. Getting the attention of the artist, she began in the most confidential and winning manner: "Mr. ——, don't you think that in some future group you may introduce the figure of a widow?" "Of course, it is possible; yet not likely. Why do you ask?" "Because I have a picture of myself, taken only a month after my husband died, which has just the right expression; and I will lend it to you, if you really think you will ever use it."

"I THINK," says Dr. John Brown, of Edinburg, "that every family should have a dog. It is like a perpetual baby; and then it betrays no secrets, never sulks, asks no troublesome questions, never gets into debt, never comes down late to breakfast—and it is always ready for a bit of fun.

THE SAME, ONLY DIFFERENT.—Josh Billings, the other day, saw the inscription, "United we Conquer."

He was so struck with the want of orthography, that he altered it himself.

"Of course," said Billings, "it means 'United we concur,' that's it!"

"Father," said a lady of the new school to her indignant spouse, after supper one evening, "you must buy our dear Georgiana an English grammar and spelling book; she has gone through her French, Latin, and Greek, music, drawing, and dancing, and now must commence her English studies."

The La Crosse *Leader* is responsible for the following: "Not long since, while one of the river boats was taking on some live stock, among the lot was one large gray mule, that refused to walk the staging. The mate shouted out to a roustabout, 'Twist his tail, and he'll come.' A coroner's jury have just rendered a verdict that the man came to his death 'by obeying orders.'"

Snook's mother and old Mrs. Stubbs were talking about little babies.—"Why," said Mrs. Snook, "when I was a baby they put the lid on." "And did you live?" was the astonishing inquiry of Mrs. Stubbs. "They tell me I did," was the astonishing reply—"Well did you ever!" and Mrs. Stubbs fell to knitting like one possessed.

A TALL STORY.—"I once," said a showman, "met a man who made bone and nerve all-healing salve. He was an enterprising kind of fellow, and so he thought he would experiment a little with it. He first cut off his dog's tail and applied some to the stump. A new tail grew on immediately. He applied some to the piece of tail which he cut off, and a new dog grew out. He did not know which dog was which.

A young lady up town was bored to death the other evening by an immovable caller, who talked poetry. She finally told him she could think of only one verse at that moment, something of Tennyson:

"And she said, I'm very weary,
He goeth not, She said.
I'm a-weary, a-weary,
And I would I were in bed."

Miss Fanny Rutherford, of Grand Rapids, Mich., is city physician. When the Rutherford goes feeling a fellow's pulse and finds it beating like all possessed, how does she know whether it is fever or Fanny?

HOW IT HAPPENED.—A Connecticut farmer, whose load of hay was found to develop several healthy boulders, remembered that he "druv putty clus to a stun wall," on his way to the market.

A Gipsy woman promised to show two young ladies their husband's faces in a pail of water. They looked, and exclaimed, "Why, we only see our own faces!" "Well," said the Gipsy, "those faces will be your husbands when you are married, won't they?"

The Wife of a Wealthy Editor Runs Away With a Boy.

At Locust Grove, a settlement in Newtown, Queens County, the house of Mr. Groff, an editor of a tobacco journal, and seemingly well-to-do, was, a few days since, found open and the furniture, household utensils and valuables, together with the family, among the missing. It seems that about two months since Mr. Groff started on a commercial trip to Europe, and took with him his little daughter, a child of ten years of age, leaving Mrs. Groff, a handsome and engaging woman of thirty-five years of age, to await his return, which is expected soon. All the luxuries that a fond and doting husband could lavish upon his wife—a handsome carriage, horses, splendid furniture, a house fitted up with all the modern improvements, books, paintings, &c.—were hers, together with an interesting little daughter, the pride of the household. Cash in bank, ample for every exigency, left for the disposal of the wife. Hardly had Mr. Groff got beyond the shores of the country on his outward-bound trip before a visitor made his appearance in the person of a young, sleek looking man, with down on his upper lip, whose attentions to the wife and mother began to attract notice. This personage was a Mr. Latting, not yet 21 years of age. It is reported that he has been seen coming from the house late at night, and instead of making his exit from the natural opening, leaping out of a bedroom window. Sunday night the furniture began to be removed, and before morning not a vestige appeared.—The horses were found in a stable at Hunter's Point, where the couple had left them after taking the ferry boat for New York. The whereabouts of the parties are not now known. A week or two since Mrs. Groff commenced to make up extra dresses, and the supposition is that they left for Europe.

A Mysterious Shot—A Ball Through a Bank Window.

Rather a singular and exciting little incident occurred yesterday in the First National Bank of Allegheny. While all the inmates were engaged in their usual avocations, a sharp pinge and crash were heard at the front window, and a piece of glass came flying through the office, and, alighting upon the President's desk, shivered into sparkling spray over checks and drafts scattered thereon.—After the commotion that had ensued had subsided a little, a reconnoissance was made to see what was the matter, the gallant colonel who officiates as cashier leading the way with drawn pen. It was found that a bullet from some pistol unknown had struck the plate glass front, and effected an entrance as described. As the sound of the shot was not heard, a theory was at once formed in the minds of the clerks that the man, whose check on 'Squire Starr was pronounced "bogus" the other day, had conceived a plan of dark revenge on the colonel-cashier, had bought an air-gun, and launched the silent but death dealing missile at his devoted head. If this was the case, death for once showed that he can control his desire for a shining mark, for the colonel's head was spared by about two yards. It is but proper to add, however, that this theory is confirmed by no other fact than the aforementioned one that the sound of the shot was not heard in the bank. That might easily happen, though, even if the infringing missile had been a buckshot from a blunderbuss, for the crash of the glass would distract attention from the more distant noise.

A Midnight Marriage.

[From the Pittsburgh Leader.]

Edward Monaghan was determined to have his future prospect for happiness decided for good or evil before the new year came in, and with that idea uppermost called on Deputy Mayor Nichols at about 12:30 P. M. New Year's eve, with his intended, Anna Shields, who, according to her statement, was almost as aged as the woman who "fell dead in love with the dog meat man," and which the song records in such a beautiful and rhymical measure. The Deputy Mayor is always careful to not transgress the laws which relate to marrying minors without the consent of their parents or guardians, and asked, as preliminary to the ceremony, "How old are you, Edward?"

"Fifty years," said Monaghan. "Say you're only forty-three," suggested the blushing Annie. In reply to the same question propounded to Miss Shields, she answered, "just forty-seven, your Honor. "Shoo, say you're only thirty-five, dear," said Edward; and after this first difference in their proposed new start in life was happily and satisfactorily adjusted, and the family record re-written in their favor, the knot was tied, and the party managed to barely get through by midnight. The young couple probably thought that it is better late than never, and have done their share toward reducing the number of old bachelors and maidens of uncertain age who banker after the state matrimonial.

At a term of court in a neighboring county, upon a motion to dismiss a case, an attorney made the following statement:

"This case, may it please your honor, has been in court for full seventeen years, indeed, it is the first case of which I have any knowledge. It has already totally bankrupted one man, and driven another crazy. There is now nothing left of it but to get it out of court. This the parties have long been anxious to do, but the lawyers have not been willing to let them. It should by all means be dismissed, and among other reasons because of the fact that the lawyers have already charged and received all the fees they ever can in the case."

James Parton expects to complete his life of Voltaire in about a year from this time.

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"GOD IS MY FATHER I KNOW."

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"THE BIBLE SAYS WE MAY."
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PROFITABLENESS.—Of course nothing can be safer than the bonds of the United States, but as the Government is no longer a borrower, and as the Nation's present work is not that of preserving its existence, but that of DEVELOPING A CONTINENT, we remind those who desire to increase their income and obtain a more permanent investment, while still having a perfectly reliable security; that:

United States 5-20's at their average premium yield the present purchaser less than 5¾ per cent. gold interest. Should they be redeemed in five years and specie payments be resumed, they would really pay only 4¾ per cent., or if in three years, only 3¾ per cent, as the present premium would meanwhile be sunk.

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There are some days that die not out,
Nor alter by reflection s power,
Whose converse calm, whose words devout,
Forever rest, the spirit's dower.

And there are days which drop a veil—s
A mist upon the distant past,
And while we say to peace—'All hail!"
We hope that always it shall last.

Times when the troubles of the heart
Are hushed—as winds were hushed that day.
And budding hopes began to start,
Like those green hedgerows on our way.

When all within and all around,
Like hues on that sweet landscape blend,
And Nature's hand has made to sound
The heart-strings th ther touch attend.

From the Massachusetts Ploughman.

ROAD MAKING.

BY DAVID PARRY.

Being a practical road builder of long experience, I would like to call the pubattention to the careful consideration of the follow suggestions upon road making. Good roads are the safety of all who travel, not only their own lives, but the good of carriages and the animals which they drive.

Our roads, as a general thing, are not built wide enough for safe travelling. In my opinion, roads should not be built less than eighteen feet wide on a straight line, and around curves twenty-five feet; around an angle the same. This gives ample room for loaded teams to meet without crowding each other into the ditch. In this part of the country, curves must necessarily occur on account of ledges, swamps, sand knolls, etc., and public safety requires that roads in such places should be wider on account of meeting teams.

All roads should be judiciously crowned not less than eighteen inches in height in the centre.

Wherever culverts are required in roads, they should be made twenty feet long which will give room for railing stones, leaving eighteen feet in the clear. All culverts should be flagged with stones at the bottom, and the flagging stones should be long enough for the side walls of the culverts to rest on. Where the land is low swamp, or muck, good oak or chestnut logs are better for the sides of a culbert than stones, for this reason: stones cannot be permanently laid in such lands where logs can be securely laid, and oak or chestnut, will not decay in a life time; but they should be covered with stones in the same manner as when built entirely of stone. Where brooks or streams are too large to allow the water to pass through one culvert, instead of bridging the stream as is usually done, two culverts should be built with a permanent wall between the two, and three if required, which makes a safe and durable road.

Roads should always be constructed of the best material which the vicinity affords. In the side hill roads, if it is sand cut, that which is cut away should never be used except at the bottom of the road, where filling is needed, and the cut should be carried a foot below grade, and where filled should be left a foot below grade; then six inches of good coarse gravel should be added, and then fill to grade with fine gravel or good loam. All side hill roads ought to slope toward the bank at least eighteen inches, and the ditches should be not less than a foot in depth; where there are ledges, they should should be cut the same depth as in earth, and all ledge should be taken out or leveled six inches below grade, the entire width of the road, and covered (to grade) with good material. When stones can be obtained, walls should be built upon the lower side where embankments are to be made, and where railing is required, good, heavy, sound stone should be used on the top of the walls, at least two feet in height and not more than twelve feet apart; then good, sound, chestnut, ash or oak poles should be used for railing, not less than four inches in the smallest part of the pole, and should be securely fastened with iron bolts; and when the embankments are made of earth, posts should be set permanently in the ground of chestnut or oak not less than six inches in diameter at the smallest end, not more than twelve feet apart, and poles, as before mentioned; spots should be made on the under side of the poles and not less than two spikes used at each post.

In building roads through low, wet lands, where it is very soft bottom, instead of cutting and throwing the mud into the centre of the road, the land should not be disturbed, but hemlock, oak or chestnut logs should be used for the bottom, which should be covered with hemlock brush, then finished with six or eight inches of fine gravel; if that cannot be obtained, good loam should be used in its stead. This method of building across low lands makes a dry road at all times of the year. If logs cannot be obtained, stones can be made to take their place; if they are used, about four inches of coarse gravel should be used to level, then six or eight inches of fine gravel or good loam to finish.

Thus, in brief, I have given you the main principles in the science of road building, and the same should be carefully observed in repairing of roads. It is unnecessary to write a lengthy article upon repairing of roads. Let one trusty man who understands working roads be engaged by the year in each town to carry out the foregoing principles, thereby making a saving of expense to the towns, besides insuring safety for the traveling public.

A Grievous Wrong.

There is the soundest common sense in the following paragraph from the *Manufacturer and Builder:*

Why is it that there is such a repugnance on the part of parents to putting their sons to a trade? A skilled mechanic is an independent man. Go where he will his craft will bring him support. He need ask favors of none. He has literally his fortune in his own hands. Yet foolish parents—ambitious that their sons should "rise in the world," as they say—are more willing that they should study for a profession, with the chances of even moderate success heavily against them, or run the risk of spending their manhood in the ignoble task of retailing dry goods, or of toiling laboriously at the accountant's desk, than learn a trade which would bring them manly strength, health and independence. In point of fact, the method they choose is the one least likely to acquire the advancement aimed at, for the supply of candidates for positions as "errand boys," dry goods clerks, and kindred occupations, is notoriously overstocked; while, on the other hand, the demand for really skilled mechanics of every description, is as notoriously beyond the supply. The crying need of this country to-day is for skilled labor; and that father who neglects to provide his son with a useful trade, and to see that he thoroughly masters it, does him a grievous wrong, and runs the risk of helping, by so much, to increase the stock of idle and dependent, if not vicious, members of society. It is stated in the report of the Prison Association, lately issued, that of fourteen thousand five hundred and ninety-six prisoners confined in the penitentiaries of thirty States, in 1867, seventy-seven per cent., or over ten thousand of the number, had never learned a trade. The fact conveys a lesson of profound interest to those who have in charge the training of boys, and girls too, for the active duties of life.

Bed Rooms and their Furniture.

[From the Christian Union.]

We come this week to spy out the land—to roam "up stairs, down stairs, and in the lady's chamber," to creep into all by and forbidden places—to look into the bed rooms, ransack the wardrobes, peep into the drawers, it may be, overhaul trunks and boxe perhaps—in short, to take all manner o liberty, and find fault to our heart's content.

Now we slip unseen into the guests' chamber. It is very pleasant and inviting; we don't think the bed is made up very neatly. There are 'humps" in the mattress. It has not been turned over after using, and well beaten and brought unto a good square surface. The sheets and blankets are not put on smoothly; the fine Marseilles spread is spread over unevenly, the center figure being too far on one side, giving a very untidy appearance to the bed, and bringing so large a portion of the bed clothes on one side, as to render it difficult to press them down properly, between the mattress and side rail, and of course you cannot, under such circumstances, give a square, regular shape to the bed. A poorly made bed spoils the appearance of the room, however elegant the rest of the furnishing may be.

Pretty sheet and pillow tidies are of great assistance in giving a fresh, cheerful air to a bed-room. If sheets and pillow slips are neatly tucked and well ironed, the bed will look very inviting at first, it well made, but after it has been once used the wrinkled, tumbled sheets and pillows are not a pleasant sight, and one feels well repaid for the little trouble of providing tidies, however simple; ruffled and embroidered a trifle for the spare chamber, if you please; but a part of a fine old linen sheet, with broad hems and narrow tucks, starched and well-ironed, gives a very neat finish to the family bed-rooms.

This elegant bureau is all right, as far as it is furnished; but the guest's chamber should be provided with all the little comforts and conveniences which a lady thinks necessary in her own room. A handsome mat or *tidy* over the marble top, and little mats on each side for cologne bottle and watch stand, or match box and jewel case, and a pretty cushion, will add much to the appearance of this bureau—or if nothing mere a clean damask towel spread over, is, if not a necessity, at least a great safeguard against stains on the marble, and a protection against the disagreeable chill that creeps over one when resting the hand or the arm on the cold marble.

A good comb and brush, free from the slightest suspicion of dirt, a boot-buttoner and a paper of pins ought to be on the bureau or in the drawer. A friend often remains over night, unexpectedly, and of course not coming provided for the attention, will find these little attentions and conveniences a great comfort—and duly appreciate your kind and thoughtful care.

A little basket of willow or perforated card, embroidered with some neat and fanciful designs, or a bead or muslin bag, is a great convenience much needed to be hung by the side of the bureau, or under the gas to hold the hair from comb or brush, burnt matches, bits of thread or paper. Some such receptacle for loose bits, or litter, should be near every bureau, no matter how simple, which the chambermaid must empty every morning. A *suzedor* is more elegant than a scrap basket, but much more expensive.

A curtain of white barrel muslin or linen is needed over the washstand, that the water, in washing, may not soil the paper or paint.

A nail brush is very convenient, we think a real necessity for every bed-room. Get open, upright brush-holders—rather than the flat ones with a cover for—by standing the tooth and nail-brush in the upright dish they drain and soon dry, and in warm weather soon become quite offensively musty.

A good sponge on the washstand and a clean doily hung up with the towels should be considered indispensable in any well furnished spare-room, as for those in daily use. Of course the bureau drawers and wardrobe, in this room, will be left as nearly unoccupied as possible, so we pass into other rooms, and will not stop to open them.

What can be the matter in this young lady's chamber? As we draw near the bureau we perceive a most unpleasant smell. We must take the liberty of opening this drawer. Whew! The first breath reveals the mystery.

The brush has been wet to brush the hair, and then without drying shut from the air in the drawer. There is no smell so sickening! It pervades the whole bureau. No perfume can overcome it—and by using it damp and uncleanse day after day, the odor is carried wherever this careless person goes. We have sat by people in church who have used such a brush, and could hardly remain through the service. The cause is unmistakable and cannot be concealed.

The hair brush should be combed free from hair or dandruff every time it is used, and laid by an open window till well aired and dried. If ladies will persist in wetting the hair or brush, a brisk movement of a dry brush through the hair will soon create a fine luster on the hair—whereas wetting diminishes the gloss in well kept hair; but we forget that that is an old fashioned idea. The progress of art and elegance teaches that a wilderness of fussy, frizzled hair is now the crowning beauty. Tastes differ—but no change in style or fashion will object, we hope, to a clean, sweet brush; and to secure that it must once a week at least be well washed in warm soap-suds, in which a little soda has been dissolved. Soda is better than ammonia, as it cleanses without stimulating the vegetable growth. Comb the brush while washing, that the suds may penetrate the roots of the bristles; and cleanse every part; then rinse in warm water, rub dry as you can, and put in the window, or by the fire if the weather is damp, to dry. This care should not be neglected by any one who makes any pretension to neatness.

The bureau drawers in this room are not in good order. You will lose much time, and we think, a good deal of self-respect when you next need a handkerchief, or stockings, for everything here seems to have been stirred up by a whirlwind or sleep-walker. It will require some skill and more patience than you can spare to separate this wretched tangle.

The pipes in the wash basin and bathroom are slimy and foul—indicative of neglect. They should be well washed every morning, and once a week a pail of boiling suds, with a spoonful or two of soda potash, must be poured in to eat away all impurities, and to sweeten the pipes. In passing let us say that this care is more especially necessary in the kitchen sinks. They require a stronger suds, and more soda or lye, and more attention—to eat out all the grease that will accumulate in washing dishes.

The discoloration around the bell pull, door knobs, etc, show that a careless girl had not protected the wall or paint, while cleaning them, and the mistress had not kept her eyes open. A bit of old cloth, with a hole in the center, to slip over the knob or bell pulls while rubbing, would have saved this defacement of paint and paper. And the finger marks on the doors also tell a sad story of neglect. They need to be washed off once a week—twice. If little fingers are about—with a soft flannel wrung out of hot suds.

The parlor mantel, over the grate in the sitting-room, has not been washed every morning when the fire is lighted in the grate. It should be. See! The gas and smoke from coal or kindlings have turned the white marble quite yellow. Wash it in hot suds, strong with ammonia, to remove the spots, and then use a clean brush and hot suds every morning, and you will save much time, and be well rewarded with an unspotted mantel.

We can't pry about any longer, but there is no knowing when we may be tempted again to meddle with our friends housekeeping.

WASTE OF FORESTS.—There has been, with very few exceptions, a wanton waste of the forest resources, not only of our own country, but of the entire world. Man has come to regard his early cradle, the forest, as an enemy, instead of as a benefactor. In England the prudent care of our forefathers to watch the growth of our forest trees—to secure a perennial supply of oak for our ships, as well as of yew for our bows, is altogether forgotten. The forest rights of the Crown over a district that has been wooded since the time of Julius Cæsar, the forest of Epping, have been so purposely neglected, that it has needed the very unmistakeable expression of public feeling to elicit from the Solicitor-General anything more than a joke upon wolves and bears. The 100 000 acres of forest, under the administration of the Woods and Forests Committee, has been so admirably managed, as to arrive at the result of a rental at the rate of three shillings and six pence per acre. The wooden walls of Old England are now so much an affair of the past that it may be said that we only regard timber as necessary to ornamental landscape, or as a material for lucifer matches. It is in this country and its dependencies, and in those of our American descendants, that the laws of Nature as to the clothing of the earth with timber have been the most persistently broken. But we are far from being alone in our folly. To whatever part of the world we turn we see indications that waste and destruction bring their own vengeance in their train. Of the effects produced upon climate by the denundation of the soil there is no room for doubt. To a certain extent the influence of human labor in the thinning of forests is beneficial, but the limits between culture and destruction are rarely maintained. The increased aridity of Palestine, of Spain, and of the South of France is well known. In the former case it has been partly caused by the cutting down of the olive, a barbarous incident of warfare, merely forbidden by ancient law. In the last named country it has been the need of fuel that has led to the denundation of so many districts, and the double evil has ensued, first, that the humidity of the climate has been reduced to a formidable extent, and secondly, that when rain does fall, in any unusual proportions, the absence of the great natural absorbing power of forest districts allows the entire product of the rainfall to be discharged at once by the natural drainage, thus causing those floods which have proved so formidable in their ravages within the last few years. The denudation of the forests of England is by no means a new grief. More than two hundred years ago Mr. Evelyn complained of the rapid extirpation, "root and branch, of all those goodly forests and woods which our more prudent ancestors left standing for the ornament and service of their country." On the confiscation of the Church lands in 1836 immense forests were cut down, and during the civil war that commenced a century later many Royal forests, as well as private forests, were entirely swept away. In France there yet exist 2,700,000 acres of State forest, earning a gross revenue of £1,740,000, and a net revenue of £1,240,000 per annum. Bavaria contains nearly 2,000,000 acres of forest; Prussia, upwards of 5,000,000; Austria, no less than 13,000,000 acres, realizing an annual export value of £3,000,000 sterling. In France and Germany exist schools of forestry in connection with the service of the State, and men of a superior class of intelligence are carefully trained in these establishments for the scientific management of this important part of the national property.—*Builder*,

APPEARANCE OF GOOD AND DISEASED MEAT.—Good meat is neither of a pale pinkish color nor of a deep purple tint. The former is indicative of disease, and the latter is a sign that the animal has died from natural causes. Good meat has a marbled appearance from the ramifications of little veins of intercellular fat; and the fat, especially of the internal organs, is hard and suety, and is never wet; whereas that of diseased meat is soft and watery, often like jelly or sodden parchment. Again, the touch or feel of healthy meat is firm and elastic, and it hardly moistens the fingers, while that of diseased meat is soft and wet; in fact, it is often so wet that serum runs from it, and that it is technically called wet.

Good meat has but little odor, and this is not disagreeable; whereas diseased meat smells faint and cadaverous, and often has the odor of medicine. This is best observed by cutting it and smelling the knife, or by pouring a little warm water upon it. Good meat will bear cooking without shrinking, and without losing very much in weight; but bad meat shrivels up, and it often boils to pieces. All these effects are due to the presence of a large proportion of serum in the meat, and to the relatively large amount of intercellular or gelatinous tissue; for the fat and true muscular substances are to a greater or less degree deficient.

It is at all times best to guard against the possibility of injury by having meat well cooked. It should be cooked so that the very centre of the joint should be exposed for some time to the temperature of 212 degrees Fahrenheit. The instructions of Liebig in this particular are hardly safe; for although a temperature below that of boiling water may coagulate albumen and develop the flavors of cooked meat, it may not insure the destruction of dangerous parasites. It is therefore better to have meat a little over-cooked than otherwise.—*Dr. Letheby's Report on the Cattle Plague.*

HOW TO MAKE A LAWN.—The ground should be entirely free from stagnant water. It must be trenched or trench-ploughed to the depth of eighteen or twenty-four inches. A week of hot, dry weather will be sufficient to dry up the grass on a thin soil, whilst on a deep, well-prepared soil, a whole month of drought would fail to destroy the verdure. The depth, whatever it may be, should be uniform, for if it be deeper in some places than in others, the deep places will settle and make the ground uneven. Evenness of surface is of great importance. I do not mean level, for an undulating surface is quite as desirable for a lawn as a level one, but whether level or undulating it must be smooth and free from even the smallest stones, as these interfere with the operations of the mowing machine.

Red-top is the best grass for a lawn, about fifty or sixty pounds to the acre. Fifty pounds will be sufficient if the seed be clean and good, which it seldom is. Some people recommend white clover, say one-fourth, to be mixed with the red-top, and this does very well, but I prefer the pure red-top. Early in the spring is the best time for seeding a lawn. All preparatory work should be performed in the fall so that during winter the ground may settle, and any defects that may be developed can be corrected before sowing. In spring, at the fitting moment, give a light ploughing, a good harrowing, pick off the stones, sow the seed, and give it a good rolling, which finishes the work.

By sowing early in the spring you may have a respectable lawn before midsummer.—*P. Barry's address before the Geneva, N. Y. Agricultural Society.*

MEAT FOR EXPORTATION.—In Monte Video, Uraguay, meat is preserved extensively for export by putting pieces of from five to one hundred pounds weight in a mixture of 85 per cent of water and 15 per cent. of muriatic acid, glycerine and bisulphate of soda. After steeping some time it is taken out and dusted with dry bisulphate of soda, and packed as tightly as possible in air tight boxes. In this state it remains as tight and sweet as fresh butchers' meat, and becomes fit for use by steeping a short time in acidulated water and exposing to the air.

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DR. A. C. GOFF & CO., No. 9, Eastside Block, Syracuse, N. Y.

Dr. Goff is the only Physician in Syracuse who gives his whole attention to the treatment of the above diseases, who is a graduate of a medical college. do. 1y-62

WARNER'S PILE REMEDY.

Warner's Pile Remedy has never failed (not even in one case) to cure the very worst cases of Piles, Itching or Bleeding Piles. Those who are afflicted should immediately call on their druggist and get WARNER'S PILE REMEDY. It is expressly for the Piles, and is not recommended to cure any other disease. It has cured many cases of over thirty years' standing. Price One Dollar. For sale by druggists everywhere.

DYSPEPSIA

Warner's Dyspepsia Tonic is prepared expressly for Dyspeptics and those suffering with habitual Costiveness. It is a slightly stimulating tonic and a splendid appetizer; it strengthens the stomach and restores the digestive organs to their healthy state. Weak, nervous and dyspeptic persons should use WARNER'S DYSPEPSIA TONIC.—For sale by druggists. Price One Dollar.

COUGH NO MORE.

Warner's Cough Balsam is healing, softening and expectorating. The extraordinary power it possesses in immediately relieving and eventually curing the most obstinate cases of Coughs, Colds, Sore Throat, Bronchitis, Influenza, Catarrh, Hoarseness, Asthma and Consumption is almost incredible. So prompt is the relief and certain its effects in all the above cases, of any affection of the throat and lungs, that thousands of physicians are daily prescribing it, and one and all say that it is the most healing and expectorating medicine known. One dose always affords relief, and in most cases one bottle effects a cure. Sold by druggists, in large bottles. Price One Dollar. It is your own fault if you suffer cough and suffer. The Balsam will cure.

WINE OF LIFE.

The great Blood Purifier and Delicious Drink, Warner's Vinum Vitæ, or Wine of Life, is free from any poisonous drugs or impurities, being prepared for those who require a stimulant. It is a splendid appetizer and tonic, and the finest thing in the world for purifying the blood. It is the most pleasant and delicious article ever offered to the public, far superior to brandy, whisky, wine bitters, or any other article. It is more healthy, and cheaper. Both male and female, young or old, can take the Wine of Life. It is, in fact, a life preserver. Those who wish to enjoy good health and a free flow of lively spirits will do well to take the Wine of Life. It is different from anything ever before in use. It is sold by druggists, also at all respectable saloons.—Price One Dollar, in quart bottles.

EMMENAGOGUE.

Warner's Emmenagogue is the only article known to cure the Whites, it will cure in every case. Where is the family in which this important medicine is not wanted? Mothers, this is the greatest blessing ever offered you, and you should immediately procure it. It is also a sure cure for Female Irregularities, and may be depended upon in every case where the monthly flow has been obstructed through cold or disease. Sold by druggists. Price One Dollar, or sent by mail on receipt of One Dollar and a Quarter.

Address 619 State St., Chicago, Ill.

Jan30-w6w26t (3)

BEAUTIFUL SCHEME FOR THE Benefit of the Children's Home!

(BY UNITED STATES AUTHORITY.)

National Gift Enterprise.

Our Second Enterprise for Educational purposes will be drawn in Public in Hon. L. D. CARNCELL'S HALL, at

Hamilton, Ohio, on Monday, Feb. 20, 1871

$30,000 in valuable and useful Gifts, to be distributed to the Ticket Holders.

$5,000 in Gold and Cash Prizes.

One fine pair Matched Horses, Leather-top Buggy & Silver-mounted Harness, worth $1,000.

Single Ticket, $1; Six Tickets, $5

The National Gift Enterprise is no fabulous enterprise gotten up for a day, but a thoroughly established monied institution. Chartered for Educational purposes, and conducted in a fair and honorable manner. All who cannot attend will stand as fair a chance as though they were present.

Agents Wanted to sell Tickets, to whom liberal deductions will be made.

Drawings take place regular every Sixty Days.

Circulars containing references and full information sent to any one ordering them. Address at once

L. A. ROLL, Manager,
Lock Box 116, Hamilton, Butler Co., Ohio.
Jan12-w2ow2t-60

A Book for the Million.

MARRIAGE GUIDE. A Private Counselor to the Married or those about to marry, on the physiological mysteries and revelations of the sexual system, with the latest discoveries in producing and preventing offspring, preserving the complexion, &c.

This is an interesting work of two hundred and twenty four pages, with numerous engravings and contains valuable information for those who are married or contemplate marriage; still it is a book that ought to be under lock and key, and not laid carelessly about the house.

Sent to any one free of postage for fifty cents. Address Dr. BUSH'S DISPENSARY, No. 12 N Eighth street, St. Louis, Mo. 1y-52 nov5w4t

$250 A Month, with Stencil and Key Checks Dies. Don't fail to secure Circular and Samples free. Address S. M. SPENCER, Brattleboro, Vt. sep15w26t-65

1826 USE THE "VEGETABLE" 1870 Pulmonary Balsam. The old standard remedy for Coughs, Colds, Consumption. "Nothing better." CUTLER BROS. & Co., Boston nov10w24w-73

Employment for All.

$30 SALARY PER WEEK, and expenses to sell our new and useful discoveries. Address B. SWEET & CO., Marshall, Mich. Jan7w13t

FIRE-PROOF GRAIN ELEVATOR,

The Fire-Proof Grain Elevator of the PHILADELPHIA GRAIN WAREHOUSING & DRYING CO., with a STORAGE CAPACITY of 500,000 BUSHELS, at the foot of Washington Street, on the Delaware River, the eastern terminus of the Penn. Rail Road, offers superior facilities for the reception, storage and shipment of Grain.

Liberal advances made on Grain stored in the Elevator, by Philadelphia Commission Merchants, a list of whom will be furnished on application to

JOHN O. FERING, Sup't.,
Philadelphia Grain Warehousing and Drying Company, Philadelphia. Nov2w 61-62

L. D. SINE'S 146th REGULAR MONTHLY GIFT ENTERPRISE

To be Drawn Monday, February 20, 1871.

$75,000 in Valuable Gifts!

1 Cash Prize of - $5,000 3 Cash Prizes of $500 each
2 Cash Prizes $1,000 each 5 Cash prizes of $100 each

Family Carriage and Matched Horses, with Silver-Mounted Harness, worth $1,500!

ONE HORSE & BUGGY with Silver-Mounted HARNESS, worth $600.

One Fine Toned Rosewood Piano, Worth $500!

FIVE FAMILY SEWING MACHINES, WORTH $100 EACH.

1,000 Gold and Silver Lever Hunting Watches, worth from $25 to $100 each. Ladies' Gold Lever Watches and Gents' Gold Vest Chains, solid silver and Bronze-Plated Table and Tea-spoons, Silver-Plated Castors, Photograph Albums, Ladies' Gold Breastpins and Ear Rings, Gents' Gold Breastpins, Finger-rings, Gold Pens, (silver extension,) etc.

WHOLE NUMBER OF GIFTS, 10,000. TICKETS LIMITED TO 75,000!

My 146th Regular Monthly Gift Enterprise will be drawn on Monday, February 20, 1871. I have now been in the Gift Enterprise Business for seventeen years, in which time I have given seventy-six Original Distributions (fifty-four Semi-Annual, and one hundred and forty-six Regular Monthly Distributions, as it will be seen) and there has never been a postponement of the Drawing of any thing done that did not give entire satisfaction to the ticket holders. The public may rest assured that this Drawing will take place promptly on the day advertised, and to the entire satisfaction of all my patrons.

Agents Wanted to Sell Tickets to whom Liberal Premiums will be paid.

Single Tickets, $1; 6 Tickets, $5; 13 Tickets, $10; 25 Tickets, $20.

Circulars containing a fulllist of prizes, a description of the manner of drawing, and other information for the distribution, will be sent to any one ordering them.

All letters must be addressed to L. D. SINE, Box 86, Office, 101 W. 5th St., Cincinnati, O. CINCINNATI, O.

Jan12w5t—60

Hoofland's GERMAN TONIC

Hoofland's Podophyllin Pills

Hoofland's GREEK OIL

Hoofland's GERMAN BITTERS

A BITTERS WITHOUT ALCOHOL OR SPIRITS OF ANY KIND.

Is different from all others. It is composed of the pure juices or Vital Principles of Roots, Herbs and Barks—(or as medicinally termed, extracts,) the worthless or inert portions of the ingredients not being used. Therefore, in one bottle of this Bitters there is contained as much medicinal virtues as will be found in several gallons of ordinary mixtures. The Roots, &c., used in this Bitters are grown in Germany, their vital principles extracted in that country by a scientific chemist and forwarded to the manufactory in this city, where they are compounded and bottled. Containing no spirituous ingredients, this Bitters is free from the objections urged against all others; no desire for stimulants can be induced from their use, they cannot make drunkards, and cannot under any circumstances, have any but a beneficial effect.

Hoofland's GERMAN TONIC

Was compounded for those not inclined to extreme bitters, and is intended for use in cases when some alcoholic stimulant is required in connection with the Tonic properties of the Bitters. Each bottle of the Tonic contains one bottle of the Bitters, combined with pure Santa Cruz Rum, and flavored in such a manner that the extreme bitterness of the Bitters is overcome, forming a preparation highly agreeable and pleasant to the palate, and containing the medicinal virtues of the Bitters. The price of the Tonic is $1 50 per bottle, which many persons think too high. They must take into consideration that the stimulant used is guaranteed to be of a pure quality. A poor article could be furnished at a cheaper price, but if it not better to pay a little more and have a good article? A med

Miscellany.

GOSSIP.

The Empress Eugenie is reported to have fallen into a profound melancholy.

Mrs. Susan Darling, of Warren, Mass., killed herself on Friday, while under the influence of religious insanity.

The Nashua (Iowa) *Post* winds up a marriage notice with the quotation, "Suffer little children to come unto me."

Hiram Powers talks more seriously than ever of visiting this country next summer—his first visit since his departure for Italy, in 1837.

Another pretty candidate for lecturing honors is Miss Sarah F. Ames, who has attracted some attention by her genius as a lecturer.

Nice wooden shoes are manufactured by the Swedish colony in Maine. A pair costs 40 cents, and only two hours' time is consumed in the manufacture.

A lady in Fond du Lac slipped on the ice and broke her leg, and the first remark she made after the accident was, "I wonder if Harry will marry me now."

In one of the western towns the Irish population refused to vote for a candidate because his name is Kilpatrick, believing, no doubt, that names mean something.

Miss Anna Dickinson's annual income from lecturing for the last seven years has averaged seven thousand dollars. Her profits last season reached nineteen thousand dollars.

"H. H.," whose poems in the magazines have attracted much attention of late is Mrs. Helen Hunt, the widow of General Hunt, brother of the late Governor Hunt, of New York.

South Carolina has a negro Lieutenant-Governor, three negro Congressmen, eleven negro State Senators, 80 negro Representatives and one negro Judge of the Supreme Court.

Some of the leading prohibitionists of Boston have decided—so the story goes—to give up further attempts at prohibition by law, and fall back on the Washington principle of moral suasion.

Of the prominent and prosperous newspaper publishers in Cincinnati, two were boilermakers, one a carpenter, a fourth a shoemaker, a fifth a country schoolmaster, but not one a practical printer.

Brigham Young's fortune is estimated to be not far from $8,000,000 or $9,000,000, and to be rapidly increasing. He is evidently desirous of leaving, when he dies, $2,000 or $3,000 apiece to his numerous widows.

Being called upon by the agent of the North End Mission, a Boston merchant cordially gave him five one hundred dollar bills, and promised to repeat the operation at the beginning of each month this year on condition his name be kept secret.

The statement that the buffaloes are deserting the plains is pronounced a fiction. They cover the plains for miles and miles. The railroad track bothers them. They consider it a snare and will not cross it. They run along by the side of the train for miles, and when they come to a culvert dive under.

A Duluth man had a wagon-tongue driven clear through him, and it took three men to pull it out, says the local paper; whereupon a Detroit journal brags of a citizen of that village who got a wagon-tongue into him, wouldn't bother any one to pull it out, and carried it for years in his body till it worked out itself.

The Rev. H. Clay Trumbull, of Hartford, thinks the time will come when Sunday School Superintendents will be qualified by study for their places, and that some of them will receive $5,000 salary. When that time arrives, half of the office seekers of the country will leave politics and make a grand rush for religion.

J. R. Frisbie, of Anamosa, Iowa, writes to the New York *Tribune*, describing a plan of his to pay the national debt, without taxing the people. As the *Tribune* comments upon the suggestion of Mr. Frisbie as the suggestion of a knave or a fool, it isn't likely that Mr. Frisbie will continue a series of letters on that topic to that paper.

Bret Harte's face in *Every Saturday*, does not meet the approval of a writer in the New York *Globe*, who says that it looks like a handsome young man; whereas Bret himself is short, with thin brown hair, and a badly pox-scarred face, but with handsome eyes and an expression of countenance certifying to his goodness of heart.

Next June occurs the twenty-fifth anniversary of the accession of Pius the Ninth to the Papacy—if he lives until then. It is the intention of the faithful to celebrate this event, unprecedented since the days of Peter, with unparalleled magnificence and enthusiasm. The Catholic youth of England are already raising a fund for presentation to the head of their Church on that occasion.

The Union Pacific Railroad claim not to have missed a connection this winter. There have been eleven snow storms on the mountains this season, some of them very severe, but snow fences and sheds protect the track effectually. The snow fences extend for many miles along the road in the more exposed mountainous region, and in the Sierras the sheds almost cover the track for a distance of thirty miles.

The editor of the Montgomery (Ala.) Advertiser has been thoroughly and radically reconstructed, and now defines his position and aims in this cheerful strain: "We indulge the hope that the time is fast approaching when the South and the West, with the Middle States, shall assume the Government of the country under the forms of the Constitution, to continue for fifty years to come, and when New England, if it shall presume to show its Radical head, shall be put to the edge of the sword without the slightest compunction."

Among the last labors of Albert Barnes, accomplished with very great difficulty owing to his almost complete loss of sight, was the careful and thorough revision of his "Notes on the New Testament," incorporating in them the vast amount of light which science and discovery have in the last twenty years thrown upon Scripture. At the time of the author's death all the volumes were ready for the press; the Gospels, in two volumes, are just ready, and the Acts, in one volume, will be published shortly. The volume on Romans is stereotyped, and will soon be issued. The other volumes will appear at suitable intervals.

Deacon Stephen S. Wardwell, of Providence, R. I., died on the 10th inst. He was born on the first day of the first week of the first month of the first year of this century, and was thus just 70 years old on the first day of the first of the first of 1871, or 70 years and 10 days on the day of his death. He was born in Providence, and rarely left the city, never was in New York, and only twice in Boston. He was Cashier of the Eagle Bank forty-five years, and previously bookkeeper in the same institution, thus making, probably, the longest term of service with one bank of any cashier in New England. He served as deacon in the Free Church, of which he was a member at his death twenty-eight years.

Anecdotes of Alexandre Dumas are buzzed about in the European journals. Edmund Yates said one of the best he heard was told by Dumas himself the last time he was in England. After his son's great success with the "Dame aux Camelias," Alexandre wrote to him as though to a stranger, congratulating him on the book, and expressing a desire to make the author's acquaintance. "I myself am a literary man," said he in conclusion, "and you may have heard my name as the author of 'Monte Christo.'" Dumas *fils* was equal to the occasion. He wrote immediately in reply, expressing the great pleasure he would have in making his correspondent's acquaintance, principally on account of the high terms in which he had always heard his father speak of the author of "Monte Christo."

The Cincinnati *Enquirer* tells an incident in which the late Wesley Smead, the well-known banker, and another well-known and eccentric citizen, whose credit did not stand very high in bank parlors, were actors. Mr. R. called on Mr. Smead for a loan. "Certainly, Mr. R., I shall accommodate you with pleasure." "But, Mr. Smead, I shall want it for a long time." "I want $10,000 for ten years." "Couldn't be better, Mr. R., that is all I'll just answer," said Smead. "I shall be moderate with you, and charge you but ten per cent." This is generous," responded R. "I expected to be charged a higher rate." "The rule with bankers, you know," continued Smead, "is to take the interest in advance for the time the note has to run. I will deduct ten per cent. for ten years from the ten thousand dollars you ask, and let you have the proceeds of your note." The *Enquirer* adds: "It took Kidenour to the day of his death to get that through his 'bar.'"

A SCHOLAR'S VIEW OF THE ST. DOMINGO DEBATE.

Prof. MOSES COIT TYLER, gives in this weeks issue of the N. Y. *Independent*, his impressions of the great St. Domingo debate in the United States Senate, which has called forth so much criticism and denunciation. Prof. TYLER had often visited the British Parliament, but chanced to visit the American Capitol for the first time while this debate was in progress. It will be seen that he considers the debate, on the whole, much abler and freer from objection, than many similar discussions in other countries. Prof. TYLER says:

That all-night debate has already gone into history—that is, into the *Globe*. It is still alluded to and commented upon in the newspapers and in conversation. I sat through the larger part of it; and I cannot join in what seem to me the gross exaggerations which have gone forth concerning its conduct. Of course, it was a personal debate; but personal debate must occasionally come in such assemblages. And, for a personal debate, lasting from evening until morning, it was no more acrimonious than the circumstances warranted; while as to disorderly behavior, I, for one, saw nothing which deserved to be called such. Considering it simply as a parliamentary tournament, I thought it a magnificent exhibition of many of the qualities which entitle any debate to be called a great one—logic, eloquence, wit, invective, sarcasm, flashing repartee, and soul-moving passion. There were savage things said, no doubt, and coarse things, and things that were cruel and unjust.

In the House of Commons I have heard greater single speeches than any one speech that was made in the Senate that night; but the debate, as a whole, was more brilliantly sustained throughout than any debate of similar length that I ever witnessed during the years in which I used to attend the battles of giants and drawfs in the British Parliament. In spite of all that has been said to its disparagement, I call it, as an intellectual display, a glorious combat. Of Mr. Sumner's part in it I will only say this: that, badgered and struck at from all sides, he bore himself as grandly, with as much nobility of tone, and as much pluck and persistence, as would have been shown under the same circumstances by Mr. Gladstone, whose counterpart, indeed, he is, not only in parliamentary position, but in many of the forces and even limitations of personal endowment. Among the assailants of Mr. Sumner, by far the most effective and brilliant was Roscoe Conkling, with a mastery of eloquent and sarcastic expression which constantly reminded me of the Marquis of Salisbury, the greatest debater at present in the House of Lords. On the whole, I was greatly captivated by Senator Thurman, of Ohio, who, as an orator in debate, with some points of difference from John Bright, has also several very striking points of resemblance to that stalwart English statesman. His manner is not so polished as is John Bright's, and it is far more vigorous than John Bright's manner has been of late years; but Senator Thurman like John Bright is really a master of terse Saxon sentences—pungent, direct, and unerring. He has the same raciness of humor, the same quickness in witty reply, the same vigor in attack, the same never-failing courtesy in interlocution with his opponents; and he stands upon the floor with the same square and hearty manner of speech."

Our readers may also be interested in reading of Prof. COIT'S impressions of the eloquent German Senator from Missouri, which we give below:

"The debate, however, would not have been remarkable but for the speech of Senator Schurz. That alone made it not only remarkable but transcendent. Beginning at about 1 o'clock, the whole discussion, by previous arrangement, was to end at 4. The opening speech was by Mr. Stewart, of Nevada. Then came, for two swift hours, the winged words, the winning elocution, the learning, the statesmanship, the courtesy, the sincere and deep feeling, the thrilling appeal of that marvelous oration of the gallant Carl Schurz; and, finally, within the space of about twenty-five minutes were packed several impassioned rejoinders, the most effective of which was by Mr. Wilson, who showed, indeed, singular skill and power in somewhat turning, by a fervid, terse, ringing declamation of three minutes, the tremendous tide of feeling with which the discourse of the Missouri Senator seemed to have swept over the assemblage.

Of course, I am not here called upon to say anything of the political implications of this great speech; but as a literary effort—as a most eloquent, artistical and philosophical production—it deserves to become a classic. That speech alone in the English Parliament would have made even an obscure man distinguished. It cannot fail here to raise its author still higher in the estimation of thoughtful people, and to impress upon his reputation the radiance of a still more brilliant and more solid renown."

LIFE INSURANCE COMPANIES.

The attention of those who hold life insurance policies is being called to the manner in which these institutions are managed, and much caution is being observed by those who contemplate taking out policies. The failure of one or two companies is exciting a spirit of inquiry and caution, and calling out suggestions as to how the plunder of honest men is to be prevented by irresponsible institutions. We copy the following remarks on this subject from a letter in the New York Evening *Post*. The writer says:

The danger to American companies is not the insufficiency of premiums, nor the lack of business, nor high rates of mortality, nor low rates of interest, but the want of money. The premiums charged for insurance are high enough, and if collected, solvency is certain, except under the most criminal mismanagement. When policy holders pay too little and officers spend too much, failure is inevitable.

There is more than one American company in which policy holders should be required to pay more money and officers to spend less. In fifty one companies the cash income for the year ending January 1, 1870, was more than $9,500,000 less than the total cost of insurance for the year, which in only eleven companies it exceeded the cost by $1,400,000.

This strife for new business has led most of our companies into fearful rates of expense, reckless selections of risks, and fictitious methods of doing business—and the effort to furnish insurance for the same money that is required by well and economically managed institutions has brought about the practice of deferring the payment of full premiums, until many companies have allowed nearly all their assets to be accumulated in the hands of policy holders and agents instead of being invested in good real estate mortgages and government bonds. This condition of things is a certain indication of mismanagement and abuse, and tells its own undeniable tale of extravagance and recklessness. The public are not aware, and will be surprised to learn that over $75,000,000 of life insurance assets are thus outstanding and unavailable; nor have policy-holders suspected that their actual indebtedness for insurance amounts to the enormous sum of $55,459,577, being an amount nearly equal to the cash assets accumulated in twenty-seven years by one of the oldest and strongest companies in this country.

Of the Great Western Life Insurance Company, recently failed, the writer says:

The Great Western Company's assets consist in great part of premiums in the hands of agents, which can never be collected. The last published report of this company, for 1870, represents it as having "in hands of agents and in course of collection" $199,284, and office premiums in course of collection $13,289, besides deferred premiums $43,415, loans on policies $40,805, and premium notes on policies $117,405. This, together with the furniture in its offices, valued at $8,561, amounting in all to $416,600 out of the aggregate amount $501,158 of assets claimed by the company, are, he says, of hardly any value.

The amount really available for reinsurance will therefore be little more, it is supposed, than the $100,000 of United States bonds on deposit in the State Treasury. But suppose all this to be true, suppose that the assets of the company, when reduced to cash, do not exceed $150,000, while the outstanding risks could only be reinsured in a standard company for $500,000, what is the obvious and only just method of procedure?

Not to fritter away the money in the Courts; but to reinsure the outstanding risks at once for one-half their amount, or for whatever proportion of them the money in hand will secure. This is so plain as to need no argument. The money is the property of the policy holders, and is paid in for life assurances; let it be applied to the purchase of that assurance in equitable proportion, as far as it will go. All men who know what receiverships are in our Courts will desire to see this done as soon as possible, and will not expect the reinsurance to avail much if it is long postponed.

To Correspondents.

A large number of our friends all over the country have already responded to our request to speak a good word to their neighbors in behalf of the BLADE, and handsome additions to our list are being made every day through their influence. We thank them for their kindness and promptness in the matter, and hope they will not weary in well-doing. There are thousands of others who could, without the loss of any time at all, do the same thing, and thus be instrumental in adding thousands of new names to our list. Reader, may we not ask *you* to do us and your neighbors this favor? *Now is the time* to do it. We believe we are making a paper better adapted to popular reading—better suited to the wants of the masses of the people—than any other printed in the United States. We intend to make it better this year than ever, and we want everybody to have it. Our present readers, who know just what the paper is, can do us an immense amount of good in the manner above indicated. Friends will you not do it, and do it NOW?

A FRIEND OF THE BLADE inquires how many terms a man is eligible to the office of President of the United States. Just as many as the people choose to elect him for. No one has ever yet been elected more than twice, and it is not probable any one ever will be.

A READER asks whether a Representative in Congress must be a resident of the District from which he is chosen. The constitution only requires that a Representative be an inhabitant of the State for which he is chosen, consequently the people of any District may, if they choose, elect any man in their State to represent them.

OUR SOLDIER FRIENDS will be glad to hear that there is an excellent prospect for important modifications of the soldiers' homestead law. On the 16th inst., the House Military Committee agreed upon a bill which will be reported to the House and it is thought passed without delay. It provides that every soldier, sailor, marine and officer, who served ninety days against the rebellion, may receive a patent for one hundred and sixty acres of land, for a homestead, on condition that he shall settle upon it for a period which, together with the time he has served in the army or navy, would make five years. In other words, his time of service will be deducted from the five years of residence required by the Homestead Law, and if discharged for wounds or disability, the whole term of his enlistment will be counted. He must, however, live upon and cultivate the land at least two years, and is to be allowed a year after selecting his homestead, within which to commence his settlement. If he does not wish to avail himself of this privilege, he may assign his homestead certificate, within twelve months from the date thereof, to any citizen of the United States over twenty-one years of age, or person who has declared his intention to become such—who has not previously availed himself of the benefits of the Homestead Preemption Laws, and said assignee shall succeed to all the rights of the soldier, but no such assignor of a homestead certificate shall thereafter have the right to avail himself of the benefit of the homestead acts. This privilege of assignment will make the land certificates have some value, for they can be sold to persons not soldiers, who wish to settle in the West.

In case of the death of any person who would be entitled to a homestead under the provisions of the bill, his widow, if unmarried, or, in case of her death or marriage, then his minor orphan children, will be entitled to the same benefits. Disabled soldiers whose names are on the pension rolls are allowed to designate an agent to make the settlement for them required by the bill.

It is thought that this is as far as Congress will go in giving soldiers land bounties or special privileges under the Homestead law. It is said that this bill is certain to pass the House, but it is not certain to go through the Senate. The bill looks like a fair one to us, covering the points that we have repeatedly advocated in these columns, and we advise our soldier friends to immediately get up a pressure on their Senators in favor of its passage. Let every soldier who reads this write a letter to his United States Senators at Washington, asking as a matter of simple justice that the bill be passed without delay. Let all Posts of the Grand Army of the Republic take action in the matter. No time should be lost as the session expires on the 4th of March. Petitions are well enough, but if Senators are flooded with private letters from soldiers all over the country, it will be much better. It don't make any difference what your Senators' politics are, let them hear from you. Don't write long letters, but make them very pointed and *very plain*. The fate of the bill now rests with the soldiers themselves. They can secure its passage if they act promptly.

W., Belvidere, Ill.—No. We cannot allow commissions on the papers and magazines on our club lists, such as *Prairie Farmer*, *Harper's*, the *Atlantic*, &c. The prices for those publications are the lowest *net* prices at which they can be afforded. But we allow Agents' commissions on the BLADE sent in connection with any of these.

WALHONDING.—Your article is good, but as we have made it a rule never to mention the subject of it in the BLADE, we must decline to print your communication. All the slang-whanging the fellow does is to get gratuitous advertising, it helps him to be mentioned in any way.

F. J., Quincy, Iowa.—Of course, C. H. WARREN is a swindler. The letter you received was not written but lithographed, and he has, no doubt, sent out thousands of them. The trick is an old one, and we have repeatedly opposed it in the BLADE.

DOUBLECRICK, Chillicothe, Mo., writes as follows: "Being a subscriber, I take the liberty to ask one question. I enlisted May 24th, 1861, for three years. At the end of eight months was transferred to the gunboats on the Mississippi for one year, which was to be equal to the balance of the three years, but both terms do not make two years, and so far I have not been able to get the bounty I enlisted for. I put my papers in the hands of an agent, and I cannot get an answer of any kind from him, and the time is short. What can I do? Am I not entitled to the bounty of one hundred dollars for which I enlisted?"—Your statement of the case is evidently incorrect. Soldiers were not transferred from Infantry to Marine service for one year, but to serve out the unexpired term of their original enlistment.—If you served less than two years and were discharged for disability resulting from disease, you are not entitled to bounty.

L. H. UMSTED, Fort Scott, Kansas, asks "Why our calendars say that the sun rises at the same time at different places in the same latitude, and do not take into reckoning the longitude," to which the following answer is given by T. MERKSELL, Jr., Wauseon, Ohio:

Each place has its local time, which is correct for that place, and for no other place in the same latitude, though it is correct for all places that have the same longitude. Now, as no two places in the same latitude can have the same meridian, they can not have the same actual time; but as their time depends on the sun coming to their meridians they must have the same local time, for it is noon at every place when the sun is on the meridian of that place. Sunrise at any place is when the sun comes above the horizon of that place; and as the sun rises the same length of time (proved by mathematical calculation) before it comes to the meridians of all places in the same latitude, it is evident that it rises at the same local time at all such places. For example, take Boston and Detroit which are in nearly the same latitude, but 12° of longitude apart. Now, as each degree of longitude is equal to 4 minutes of time, it is plain that when the sun rises at Boston it will be 48 minutes till it rises at Detroit; but when it does rise there it will be the same local time that it was at Boston when it rose there, notwithstanding the 48 minutes of actual time. For, as it is the same length of time from sunrise till noon at both places, the sun must rise the same length of time before noon at both places that is, the sun rises at the same moment (local time) at both places. This of course does not make any allowance for the difference of altitude above the sea.

J. C. BARTON, Republic, Ohio, asks:—"When did William, King of Prussia, ascend the throne? Who was his predecessor? Who is the Crown Prince?"—King William was appointed Regent of the Kingdom during the the mental illness of his brother, King Frederick William IV., October 2, 1858, and ascended the throne at the death of his brother, Jan. 2, 1861. The Crown Prince is his eldest son, Frederick William, who was born Oct. 18, 1831, and who, Jan. 25, 1858 married the eldest daughter of Queen Victoria. He is the one alluded to in the dispatches by his father as "Our Fritz."

K. P., Wabash, Ind.—We gave, a couple of weeks ago, a statement of the Alabama claims dispute between this country and Great Britain. The difficulty between Spain and Cuba is simply a rebellion on the prt of some of the people of Cuba against the Spanish government, and an attempt to establish their independence of it and set up a government of their own. Their chances of success are not encouraging.

MILTON H. BUSH, Indianola, Iowa,—Colored soldiers have the same privileges under the soldiers' homestead law as whites; that is, they are entitled to 160 acres of land on the line of any land grant railroad.

L. TAPPAN, Michigan, says:—"Will you please give all the information necessary in regard to lightning rods? How they should be put up, what size, how high, and at what distance apart; and, in fact, whether you consider them any protection or not. Does lightning run up as well as down? Would a pole, say sixty feet high, with a rod put on it, prove protection to a group of farm buildings, say within two hundred feet circle? A full explanation in regard to the subject will be of interest to many of your readers." Lightning rods, properly put up, are undoubtedly a protection against lightning. Copper is the best conductor and therefore makes the best rods. A flat strip of copper, fastened directly to the building, terminating at the top in four or more sharp points, galvanized so they will never rust and thus become blunt, and running not less than five or six feet into the ground, makes the best rod. The copper may be from one and a half to three inches wide. Of course the wider if is the greater will be its conductiong power. The glass insulators are entirely useless. Any kind of rod is just as good, if not better, without them.—If iron is used the rod should be from an inch to an inch and a half, or even more, in diameter.—The connection at the joints should be *perfect*.—This is one of the most important matters in the putting up of a rod. If the copper strip is used it may be done by lapping and thoroughly riveting. If iron it is better to have it welded, if possible, and if not, so thoroughly rivited as to make it impossible for the joints ever to become sparated. A rod put up according to these rules will protect *twice the radius of its height*. That is, a rod running up six feet above a building will protect twelve feet on all sides of it, or a circle twenty-four feet in diameter. If ten feet above the building, it will protect twenty feet on all sides of it, or a circle forty feet in diameter, and so on. Therefore it is better to have the rod run up from the middle of the building than from one end. Lightning does strike up as well as down. The protection that would be afforded by a pole sixty feet high with a good rod attached to it would depend entirely on the height of the surrounding buildings. It would be safer, we think, and not much more expensive, to have several rods put up at proper distances apart.

"ILLINOIS SOLDIER," Waverly, Iowa, writes as follows:—"I am a subscriber to your valuable paper, and would like to ask a few questions in relation to pensions, for the benefit of a father who lost a son in the service of his country. The son went into the service, served about eight months, was taken sick, and sent to the hospital where he was salivated, from the effects of which he died, after coming home. The father had received a certificate of disability, or something like it, exempting him from the draft (this before his son was enlisted). His son was his main dependence while in the army, for the support of family. And at the present time the father is unable to work in order to support the family, and is very poor. Please tell me if there is a possibility of procuring a pension, and if so, the mode of proceeding, and the cost for fees, &c. Is there any way of getting county bounties or State bounties where the soldier has not received them?"

We can only answer these questions in general terms. If the mother of the soldier is dead, the father is entitled to a pension, provided he can establish his dependence on the son for support to the satisfaction of the Pension office, which is somewhat difficult to do, and can also establish the fact that the disease of which his son died was contracted in the United States service and in line of duty. As to the mode of proceeding, if you think the above facts can be established, apply to T. W. TALLMADGE, Columbus, Ohio, giving a full and plain statement of the case. We do not know about County and State bounties in Illinois. Ohio veterans are entitled to $100 and have nearly all received it.

J. H. L. asks:—Can a deserter get a Bounty or Pension. I know of one that gets both. The facts are these: he deserted from the 1th Wisconsin Infantry, went to Michigan and joined another regiment; served some time and got his discharge. He is a worthless "cuss" any how. I for one feel glad to have worthy soldiers and their dependants provided for, but no swindling. Please answer through correspondent's column." Neither bounty nor pension is due to any soldier who deserted, nor can they be obtained if the fact of desertion is known at the Department where these claims are settled. If you know the facts to be as you state them, it is your duty to inform the Commissioner of Pensions, at Washington, and have this swindle stopped.

MARY K. D., Parishville, N. Y., writes as follows:—"I see by your interesting and instructive correspondents' department that any one is at liberty to ask information upon any subject. I therefore take the liberty of asking your advice. I have a brother sixteen years of age who has been partially deaf from birth. He can talk everything that we can make him hear and understand. Our family have no difficulty in conversing with him, but strangers he cannot understand. He can neither read nor write with understanding. We are told there is an institution somewhere for such persons, where they are taught to talk, read and write. Where it is, we have not as yet been able to learn, therefore ask you to give us the desired information if in your power to do so, as soon as possible. We wish to know where the institution is, and to whom we can write to receive further information."—There are a number of institutions in the United States where the deaf and dumb are educated. The American Asylum for the deaf and dumb, at Hartford, Conn., was the first organized in this country, and has always been one of the best managed and most popular. The New York institution, at New York city, is the largest in the country, and now one of the best. The Ohio institution, at Columbus, though not so large, is admirably managed. The expenses of pupils in it are paid by the State. The Hartford institution was the first in this country to teach the deaf to speak, but articulation is now taught in the New York, Ohio and some other State institutions. There is a marked difference in deaf mutes in regard to their ability to acquire the power of articulation so as to be able to speak intelligibly; those who become deaf after having learned to speak, and those whose vocal organs are pliable, and who possess the imitative faculty to a high degree, acquire the power of articulation with great readiness; while those who are born deaf, or possess sluggish intellects, find great difficulty in acquiring the power of speech. Most deaf mutes who speak use a monotonous tone, and some a harsh and unpleasant one, while others modulate the voice without any reference to the sense. Occasionally, though rarely, one is found who, by thorough familiarity with the structure and action of the vocal muscles and long and patient practice, has acquired the art of speaking so well as to excite no suspicion of deafness. A letter addressed to the superintendent of the New York institution for the deaf and dumb, New York city, will secure for our correspondent the necessary information concerning terms of admission, course of study, &c.

Z. MARINE, Xenia, Ind., asks:—"In your answers to correspondents please inform me whether there is any way for an heir of a man that served in the war of 1812, to obtain the land donated by the government to the soldiers that served in that war; if so, how?"—We can not give you a satisfactory answer without knowing more of the facts in the case, as well as the relationship of the heir mentioned.

G. W. BOND, Fremont, Neb.—We have no clubbing arrangement with the *Ladies' Repository*, and you can get it of any Methodist minister at the publishers' lowest rates.

A. W. MITCHELL, Iowa.—There are several parties of the same name in the same business—one of them an unmitigated rascal. We think the honest ones ought to have this fellow injuncted, or change their names.

FAYETTE LEWIS, Ulysses, Pa.—We have received so many solutions of the 'plank problem" sent us by a teacher of Chelsea, Pa., that it has been impossible, (as it was also unnecessary) to give more than two or three of them. Your rule, however, is so plain and concise that we publish it for the benefit of such of our readers as may have been "stuck" on similar questions:

To find the side of a cubical box made from a board or plank of any given thickness: From the area of the plank or board from which the box is to be made, deduct twice the square of the thickness. Divide the remainder by 6, the number of faces of the required cubical box, extract the square root of the quotient; to this add the thickness of plank, which will give the length of each of its sides.

R. L. SULLIVAN, South Perry, Ohio.—We think it very likely that Congress will pass the "$8¼ per month law" as it is styled, still it would help the bill along very much if the soldiers would write to their Representatives and Senators in Congress urging them to put it through. There is no influence more potent than this with our national law-makers.

E. J. BARBER, Fenner, N. Y.—The number of the BLADE you order is out of print.

LESTER NEELY, Millville, Wisconsin, says:—In our recitation to-day we had a discussion with our teacher. He affirmed that telegraphic dispatches were transmitted instantly; we thought it could not be. Will you please inform me in your answers to correspondents which was right?"—You were right and your teacher wrong; but the time occupied in sending a dispatch over ordinary telegraph lines, is so short as not to be perceptible. But by careful experiments it has been ascertained that the electric current travels over one hundred thousand miles in a second of time.

S. NEELY.—We shall be glad to receive your articles on sorghum culture for the FARM JOURNAL.

FARMER, Big Prairie, Ohio.—You can get a book on Peat and its manufacture, of ORANGE JUDD & Co., 245 Broadway, New York.

SUPERINTENDENT, North Manchester, Ind.—Of course it is impossible to make a Sabbath School music book that will please everybody, and we hesitate therefore about advising you which of the many good books to get for your school. The *Silver Song*, published by W. W. WHITNEY, Toledo, O., is becoming highly popular, and one of the editors of the BLADE has just ordered a supply for the school of which he is Superintendent.

U. R. H., Superior, Wisconsin, writes as follows:—"I have been asked the question several times why it was that while looking at the swells on our lakes during a storm, there were always *three* large swells preceeded by an uncertain number of smaller ones. Why there were just three every time and no more? I have often noticed it but could give no reason for the cause. Does it depend upon any Philosophic principle?"—Are you not mistaken about this? We have never noticed it, nor has our attention ever been called to it before. If it is so, and any of our readers can explain it we invite them to do so. You can have your FARM JOURNAL sent to any Post Office you wish.

A large number of letters are left over to be answered in our next.

☞ Don't think because snuffs and strong or poisonous solutions will not cure Catarrh, that you cannot be cured. The proprietor of Dr. SAGE'S Catarrh Remedy offers $500 reward for a case of Catarrh which he cannot cure. It costs but fifty cents for a package which prepares one full pint. Sold by druggists, or send sixty cents to Dr. R. V. PIERCE, 133 Seneca street, Buffalo, New York, and get it through the mail. A pamphlet free. The Genuine has Dr. PIERCE'S private "U. S. Certificate of Genuineness" engraved on the same.

☞ See advertisement of Dr. BUTTS' Dispensary, headed, Book for the Million—MARRIAGE GUIDE—in another column. It should be read by all.

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....THE BEST TONIC—Casewell & Co.'s Ferro-Phosphated Elixer of Callisaya. oct27w1y

DR. RANSOM'S HIVE SYRUP AND TOLU.—Doctor, I have a terrible cough, and my children are all down sick with coughs, sore throats and colds. What shall we do? Take "Dr. Ransom's Hive Syrup and Tolu, or Honey Syrup," and apply "Dr. Trask's Magnetic Ointment" to the throat and chest, warm. These are excellent family medicines. Full directions are on the bottles. You can get both medicines at any drug tore for sixty cents.

WANT OF SLEEP.—Opium or morphine is usually prescribed as a soporific. Both are violent remedies, and re-act violently; producing nausea, headache and prostration. They are often given when they are not needed; and not unfrequently they increase the irritation of the brain instead of soothing it. Probably in seventy-five cases out of a hundred in which they are administered, PLANTATION BITTERS given in moderate doses and at proper intervals, would have the desired effect. Persons who find it difficult to compose their minds to sleep after lying down at night, or whose slumbers are disturbed by bad dreams, or are too brief to afford due nourishment, are advised to try the PLANTATION BITTERS as an anodyne; for this comprehensive medicine is not only a tonic and alterative, but a delightful sedative—a "balm of hurt minds" as well as a revivifier of enfeebled frames.

Its use, as a means of producing healthful sleep, involves none of the unpleasant secondary consequences of a resort to the former narcotics. They all, without exception, excite the stomach; while the effect of the Bitters is in tone, and without irritating that sensitive organ.

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N. B.—The author of the above named books, or Dr. Parker, may be consulted on all diseases requiring skill, secrecy and experience. dec19w6mos-65

Dispatches from China show that a whole fleet of German vessels are laid up in that quarter, afraid to venture out for fear of being captured by French cruisers. At Amoy alone, twenty of them are rotting at the wharf.

The Markets,

TOLEDO PRODUCE MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE TOLEDO WEEKLY BLADE
TUESDAY MORNING, Jan. 24, 1871.

Flour—There has been very little demand for this article in our market during the past week and sales for shipment have been light. There is no material change in prices of various grades. We quote Fine $4 25@4 50; Superfine, $5@5 50; Extra, $6@6 50; XX and Fancy, $6 50@7; Buckwheat Flour $5 50.

Wheat—This grain has been in fair demand since our last and the market as a whole has ruled fairly active. Prices closed last night 6@7c higher than one week ago with a good spot and speculative inquiry and liberal offerings. Amber Michigan 128½c spot and seller last half February. No. 1 White Michigan has ruled unusually active, steadily advancing under a good inquiry and closed yesterday at 5c advance on the week at 144c. White Michigan regular was a shade better early last week since which time it has ruled dull and nominal. No 3 White Wabash has been in light request at 140c, ruling steady. No 1 Red has advanced 6c since our last, a portion of the time ruling moderately active and closes at 140c. No. 2 Red has ruled quiet, yet it has steadily advanced in sympathy with other leading grades and the price shows an advance of 6c, being quoted at 128c. Rejected Red is steady at 120c.

Corn.—The market for New high mixed Corn has been moderately active at 3@4c advance. A fair business has been transacted at 55@55½c principally at the inside. New Low-mixed Corn has been fairly active and a large volume of trade has been transacted at 54c with occasional sales at a slight improvement on this quotation. Yellow and Michigan Corn are nominal.

Oats—Early in the week the market for this grain was very quiet, barely sufficient changing hands to furnish quotations; but for a few days past there has been a good inquiry with liberal sales. Prices are 1@1½c higher than last week and the market exhibits some strength at 47½ for No. 1 and Michigan and 46½@46¾c for No. 2

Rye—Inactive; we have not heard of a sale for a week past.

Clover Seed—A fair business has been transacted in this seed at about the range of $6@6 10 with the bulk of the sales at the outside. Yesterday the market closed steady at $6 10.

Dressed Hogs—These are about 37½c higher than one week since and there is more tone to the market. During the latter part of last week the receipts were very light and but few Hogs changed hands. At this writing the receipts are more liberal and some activity prevails at $8@8 12½, the inside for light.

Provisions—The improvement in the price of Dressed Hogs has stiffened the market for Pork and Lard and these rule firm at higher prices. City packed Mess Pork is now quoted at $20 25@20 50 for car lots, while in a small way $1@2 advance is demanded. Kettle rendered Lard is quoted at 12½c and the market is firm.

New York Produce Market.

NEW YORK, Jan. 23, 1870.

Cotton in fair demand at better prices; middling uplands, 15¾c. Flour in fair demand and prices have advanced; receipts 11,000 bbls; superfine western and state, $5 85@6 15, common to good extra, $6 55@6 65; good to choice, $6 70@7 10; white western extra, $7 10@7 50; extra Ohio, $6 70@7 20; St. Louis, $6 75@8 50. Rye Flour and Corn meal unchanged. Whisky firmer at 93½@93½c. Wheat steady; receipts 7,000 bush; new spring, 130@132½c; red and amber, 153@157c; white Michigan 160@175c. Rye, Barley and Malt unchanged. Corn in fair demand and prices have advanced; No 1 mixed 81@83½c; yellow 84@85c. Oats firm receipts 4,000 bushels; Western and Ohio, 63@65c. Hay, $120 for shipping and $1 25@1 35c at retail. Coffee firm; Rio, 13½@16½c. Molasses New Orleans 64@70c. Rice steady at 7¾@7¾c. Crude Petroleum 14@14¼c, refined 24¼c. Total stock of grain in warehouse—Wheat, 2,500,000 bush; corn, 257,000 bu; oats, 1,700,000 bu; rye, 150,000 bu; barley, 518,000 bu; malt, 246,000 bush; peas, 12,000 bush. Provisions—Mess Pork firmer at $22 50@22 75; old $21 25@21 50; prime $18 50; prime mess, new, $21 50 for February, March and April delivery; $22 75@23 00 for clear, March and April. Beef steady; mess $10@$15; extra $15@17 50. Hams 20@21c tierce; prime mess 26@28c; India mess 28@32c. Cut Meats firm; hams 13@13¾c; shoulders 7¼@8¼c. Middles firm; city long 11¾@11¾c; short 11¾@11¾; western long 10¾@10¾c; short 11¾c. Lard firmer; prime steam 12@12½c; kettle rendered 13¾c. Feb. and March 12¾@12¾c. Butter firmer and in fair demand at 25c for western and 26@40c for State. Cheese—12@16c.

Government Stock Market.

NEW YORK, Jan. 23

6s of '81	110¾	20s of '67	108¼
20s of '62 reg	109¾	20s of '68